FBIS DAILY REPORT

MIDDLE EAST & SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

3 MAY 1983

Shultz Tour - Lebanon

Shultz Talks — Noting that Secretary of State George Shultz would leave for Beirut on 3 May after holding further talks with Israeli officials, IDF Radio said that, despite the progress made in the negotiations, it "does not seem likely" that Shultz will be able to conclude an agreement by the end of this week. There is only marginal progress, "if at all," on crucial issues like the status of Major Sa'd Haddad, the radio said. Nevertheless, Jerusalem radio reported earlier "on behalf of sources close to the talks" that Haddad will not be the cause of the success or failure of the entire agreement. If it transpires that Israel is achieving a system of reliable security arrangements in southern Lebanon, Israel will soften its position on Haddad's status, the radio said. In remarks broadcast by the radio after his 2 May meeting with Shultz, Israeli Prime Minister Menahem Begin stressed that there are still problems which need to be discussed in both Jerusalem and Beirut.

In a separate development Israel learned from sources in Shultz' party and from its military attache in Washington that it will be able to receive the promised technical data for the Lavi aircraft, Jerusalem radio noted.

Lebanese-Syrian Talks — Following talks in Damascus between Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim and Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, Syrian Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam said in a Damascus television interview that "any Israeli gains imposed on Lebanon will keep the Syrian forces in Lebanon until the removal of these gains." According to an earlier Damascus radio report, Al-Asad informed Salim that Lebanon can "impose" an Israeli withdrawal without this harming its freedom or sovereignty if it remains steadfast alongside Syria and the Arab countries. In a related report on the Al-Asad-Salim talks, Beirut radio said the Syrian leader had disclosed that he will tell Shultz that the United States and Israel are putting more pressure on Lebanon than it can bear and that the United States must not let Israel achieve gains in Lebanon if it really wants to help Lebanon remove foreign forces from its territory.

Lebanese Army Convoy — After a southbound Lebanese Army convoy was stopped by Maj Haddad's forces outside Sidon, Israeli forces prevented the convoy from returning to Beirut, according to Voice of Lebanon and Beirut radio reports.

Syria

Defense Minister Mustafa Talas and Ba'th Party Regional Command member Rifa't al-Asad, the brother of the president, attended live-ammunition military exercises, Damascus television and radio noted.

PLO

PLO Forces on Alert — Palestinian military forces in Lebanon have been placed on a "high state of alert as a precautionary step" due to the Israeli buildup and callup of reserves, according to the Palestinian news agency WAFA cited by Radio Monte Carlo.

Palestinian-Syrian Relations — Following the meeting of the expanded Palestinian Military Council in Damascus reported earlier, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat has not yet conferred with Syrian authorities, according to AFP. Unidentified sources indicated that a meeting may be arranged between 'Arafat and Syrian President al-Asad but an As-Sa'iqah official said that, despite "numerous efforts" by certain Palestinian groups to organize such an encounter, "matters are still not ripe" for such a meeting, the report added.

POW Exchange Mediation — Responding to claims by an official of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine - General Command that the conditions presented by the PLO for the exchange of prisoners were accepted by the Israeli authorities, IDF sources emphasized that there is no agreement between the PLO and Israel at this stage on their exchange, Jerusalem television reported.

West Bank

An Arab villager was killed and two others were injured when border policemen fired to disperse demonstrators attempting to interfere with agricultural work near a Jewish settlement, Jerusalem radio reported.

Iran-Iraq War

The Iraqi Armed Forces launched another attack against the Nowruz oil fields, according to a military communique broadcast by Tehran radio which also reported the sinking of one of the Iraqi gunboats taking part in the attack. The Iraqi military communique carried by INA did not report any naval activity. Earlier, IRNA claimed that a Kuwaiti ship carrying drinking water and food to Kuwait was attacked and sunk by Iraqi naval forces in Kuwaiti waters on 1 May. An Iraqi military spokesman dismissed repeated Iranian claims that Iraqi forces continue to bombard Abadan, describing them as "mere lies," and he also warned Iran against the consequences of shelling Iraqi cities, INA reported. Subsequently, in a statement to INA, Iraqi Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim warned Iran that the continued shelling of Iraqi civilian installations will result in an Iraqi response against targets deep inside Iran using "all means and weapons available" to Iraq. Meanwhile, the chairman of the Popular Islamic Conference has called on Soviet leader Yuriy Andropov and President Reagan to adopt practical and effective measures to end the war, INA reported.

Iran

Further on Arrests of Tudeh Members — In an interview broadcast by Tehran radio, Revolution Guards Corps Commander Mohsen Reza'i reported on his 2 May meeting with Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeyni during which he informed the latter on the arrest of members of the Tudeh Party. Khomeyni offered some guidance concerning the arrests and called for increased security consciousness in discussing such matters in the media. In connection with the arrests, Reza'i called on the Iranian people "to avoid making any emotional moves, to be careful of the rumors and atmosphere which may be created to force our people to take some action." He also urged people not to take any precipitous action but to leave any further arrests to the Revolution Guards Corps.

Kurdish Operations — Revolution guards and other security forces killed or wounded "large numbers of counterrevolutionaries" in the Mahabad-Bukan areas of Kordestan, Tehran radio reported. The radio also said that 149 members and supporters of the "Mohareb minigroups' urban cells" were arrested along with several officials of the Kurdish Democratic Party.

Kuwait

Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah flew to Paris for talks with his French counterpart Charles Hernu, KUNA reported. A French Defense Ministry statement cited by KUNA disclosed that France and Kuwait recently concluded an important arms agreement.

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'Arafat Continues Talks; Habash Ends USSR Visit

JN030628 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] In Damascus yesterday, PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat continued his meetings with Palestinian military officials. 'Arafat, according to WAFA, presided over a series of meetings of the higher Palestinian Military Council. WAFA affirmed that the Palestinian forces in Lebanon have been placed on a high state of alert as a precautionary step against any contingency, specifically due to the Israeli buildup and call up of its reserves.

Also in Damascus yesterday, Nayif Hawatimah, secretary general of the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, made a statement in which he warned of new Saudi-Moroccan designs to settle the Jordanian-Palestinian relations. Hawatimah added that these designs aim to obtain a U.S. statement calling for a referendum in the West Bank and Gaza after the transitional period stipulated in the Camp David agreement and Reagan's plan. The PLO, Hawatimah said, will then have to give up its right of representation of the Palestinian people and will have to give a mandate to King Husayn to hold negotiations on the basis of Reagan's plan.

In another development, PFLP Secretary General Dr George Habash yesterday ended his 5-day official visit to the USSR. Palestinian sources said that Habash's talks with Soviet officials touched on the strategy of the Palestinian resistance in confronting imperialism and Zionism in the wake of the breakdown of the negotiations between the PLO and Jordan. The sources said that the PLO's firm stand vis-a-vis King Husayn has prevented the bridging of the gap between Reagan's plan and the Fes resolutions.

PLO Radio: Palestinian Forces in Lebanon on Alert

JN021830 Baghdad Voice of PLO in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Brothers, our political editor writes the following: Brother Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], PLO Executive Committee chairman and commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, presided over a meeting of the expanded Military Council in his office in Damascus. Present at the meeting were Brothers Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir], deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces; and Abu Mahir [Muhammad Ghunaym], Fatah Central Committee member.

Abu 'Ammar began the meeting with a political review of the recent developments and possible events in light of the blatant and provocative U.S. political and informational onslaught against the PLO and the Zionist threats to launch military aggression against the PLO, the Lebanese nationalist movement, and Syria. Abu 'Ammar warned against the dangers of the design Washington is trying to implement at the moment. He said that Shultz came to the region at this very time to follow the developments closely and to supervise the implementation of imperialist U.S. designs against the Palestinian people and their leadership represented by the PLO as well as against our Arab nation, particularly in this stage which is witnessing increasing Israeli military buildup and threats to the joint forces.

Abu 'Ammar underlined the importance of having the [Palestinian] forces in Lebanon's Al-Biqa' and the Tripoli areas on the highest combat alert to foil or deter any aggression, stressing that the Palestinian revolution and its forces in all locations will fight with the same heroism witnessed in the battles of Lebanon and Beirut in defense of our Arab nation and victorious revolution and to defeat the Zionist-U.S. design which aims to subjugate the region and force it to yield to the Zionist demands.

Concluding the meeting, Abu 'Ammar gave instructions to the commanders and officers of the forces and all organs, underlining the need to maintain the highest state of alertness and vigilance and to stay prepared to face all possibilities. Abu 'Ammar reiterated his admiration of and confidence in the Palestinian fighters' high morale despite the difficult circumstances. He asserted that the whole world is on our side and that the political situation is increasingly tipping in our favor, thanks to the firm stands of our Soviet friends, the socialist countries, the nonaligned bloc, the Islamic and African countries, and other friendly countries. He added that the U.S. and Zionist onslaughts will certainly founder on the rocks of our Arab nation's steadfastness and resistance.

Abu 'Ammar resumed his contacts in Damascus where he met several military and political officials to follow up the various developments and take necessary measures.

PLO's Al-Wazir on Talks With Jordan, Reagan Plan

PM030913 London ASH-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 29 Apr 83 p 3

[Interview with Khalil al-Wazir, PLO Executive Committee member and deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian forces, by Yusuf Fadil in Jidda "during a recent visit to deliver a message from Yasir 'Arafat to King Fahd"]

[Excerpts] [Question] We believe that all those who were concerned with the Palestinian problem and who followed the recent Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue were surprised that the dialogue reached a deadlock or seemed to do so. Will you explain to us how this unexpected situation came about?

[Answer] The dialogue began several months ago in a spirit of patience and of a joint desire to draw up a joint plan for political action in the international arena. In the dialogue the Palestinian side was anxious to reach the results which we are seeking within the Fes resolutions and while preserving the fundamental principles, that is not to forsake rights or throw in the cards without knowing the nature or the course of the route we are following. During the meetings a Jordanian paper was given to the Palestinian side and Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat].

The paper was discussed objectively with a view to finding common denominators that would enable us to act together in

the interest of our Arab cause in Palestine and of preserving our rights.

Abu 'Ammar and the Palestinian side made preliminary remarks on the points contained in the paper, which were submitted to the PLO Executive Committee and later to the Fatah Central Committee during its recent meeting in Kuwait. We went back to the meeting with views requesting alterations to certain clauses, and affirmed the following points:

First, the emphasis on the question of Palestinian representation and the PLO's right to determine such representation.

Second, the possibility of dealing with international initiatives that recognize the Palestinian people's right to their national soil.

Third, to act on the basis that the Fes summit resolutions represent a minimum.

Fourth, the desire that the joint [Jordanian-Palestinian] move should be within the Arab framework.

The Jordanian side wanted the working paper to expressly consider Reagan's plan to be the basis for action because it incorporates a mechanism for implementation. The PLO cannot accept this view because Reagan's plan ignores the Palestinian rights and says "no" to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and an independent national state, and to dealing with the PLO.

When the Jordanian side released its recent statement the Palestinian command was anxious to stick to objective statements and proclamations out of its desire to maintain the historical relations between the Palestinian and Jordanian people and so that the disagreement in political stands would not affect the preservation of relations.

Contacts are now being held with Arab leaders and circles in an attempt to reach common ground for the continuation and activation of the Palestinian-Jordanian dialogue under Arab sponsorship.

Such contacts are taking place in Morocco and Algeria and my mission to Saudi Arabia is for this purpose.

[Question] Intense activity is now taking place in the Arab arena and the U.S. Administration seems determined to play a role at this juncture that will have a long-term effect on balances in the area. How do you evaluate this move, which began with Secretary of State Shultz' visit to the area.

[Answer] First, the Palestinian leadership, in the light of Shultz' visit, stresses that the U.S. Administration must not ignore or disregard the fact that the PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. The persistent campaign by President Reagan and his Secretary of State Shultz against the PLO, describing it as extremist and trying to drive a wedge between the PLO and the Palestinian people in the occupied territories, is a continuation of the campaign against the Palestinian people and in support of aggression against the rights of this people, who have been struggling for 65 years. This people will continue the struggle to achieve their objective of national independence, a right which the U.S. Administration completely ignores as part of its policy.

Second, the U.S. campaign of instigation against the PLO and the call on the Arab countries to withdraw their recognition of it is in fact regarded as interference in the Arab nation's affairs. Our Arab nation will respond to this campaign by strengthening its support for the PLO as the sole legitimate representative, as decided at the 1974 Rabat summit and all the other summits, including the Islamic summit, the nonaligned summit, and the United Nations.

Third, the U.S. Administration is deliberately ignoring the party who is placing obstacles on the road to peace. When the Israeli Government rejected Reagan's plan in whole and in part we did not see any campaign by the U.S. Administration against it.

The question we should address to Shultz and the U.S. Administration is: How long will they continue to ignore the reality of the situation and the objective facts in the area and how long will they continue to ignore the Palestinian people's national rights and totally refuse to deal with the PLO, which represents the Palestinian people's rights? Whether the United States likes it or not and despite all the misleading information that the U.S. officials have spread about the nature of the PLO's representation, U.S. pressmen, envoys, diplomats, and even U.S. consulates are well aware of the attitude of the Palestinian people in the occupied territories and the united Palestinian stand everywhere around the PLO.

Another fact that should be emphasised is that no steps on the road to peace which the U.S. Administration is seeking will succeed, nor will the conditions for protecting U.S. interests in the area be created, if U.S. policy continues to ignore the people's usurped rights.

[Question] President Reagan's latest statements indicate that this is your last chance, particularly in view of the passage of time and Israel's rush to build settlements. How will you move in the future?

[Answer] We should not submit to U.S. blackmail. The U.S. Administration keeps saying "take it or leave it" [printed in English], that is, accept what it wants us to accept and nothing else. It says that this is our last opportunity and that time is running out because the Israeli occupiers are expropriating the land and establishing new facts. Our answer to this is that we should not abandon our principles, despite our knowledge of the Zionist beast, who is seeking to swallow up the land by building settlements on it. Nor do we belittle the danger of the daily Israeli measures. But this should not distract us from the essence of the problem and preoccupy us with its side issues, which are the aggressive presence and the Israeli occupation of the whole of the Palestinian territory. [sentence as published] We must deal with the fact of the aggressive presence as a whole and take steps at all military and economic levels in order to deal with this danger.

[Question] What is your attitude regarding withdrawal from Lebanon?

[Answer] Brother Abu 'Ammar has already announced that the PLO will place no obstacles in the way of the withdrawal of the Israeli enemy and his occupation forces from Lebanon. With regard to Palestinian-Lebanese relations, there are issues that both sides need to discuss. There are numerous problems that the Palestinian people in Lebanon are suffering, including continued mistreatment, kidnapping of Palestinian youths, and the interrogation of people in the camps.

[Question] Some people interpreted the assassination of Dr 'Isam as-Sartawi as an expression of rejection by Palestinian opposition elements aimed at undermining Palestinian democracy. What is your opinion about this?

[Answer] First of all the organization that claimed responsibility for assassinating martyr 'Isam as-Sartawi is a faction that has nothing to do with the PLO. We consider it to be a tool of an Arab intelligence service that protects it. The assassination of martyr As-Sartawi while he was performing his national duty was a blow that helped the Israeli enemy, who was disturbed by 'Isam's successful actions in Europe, Africa, and the United States and by the role for which he was well known inside the Israeli entity, where he was able to achieve things on the level of the enemy's internal front that the Arabs had been unable to achieve in many years.

[Question] Is there anything new in your Arab relations?

[Answer] There is nothing new. For our part we have declared our readiness to begin a new Palestinian-Syrian dialogue that will examine all the past factors that have created certain problems and differences of views in the past, particularly during the war [in Lebanon] and its aftermath. We are awaiting the resumption of this dialogue in order to discuss the present circumstances, particularly in view of the present Israeli dangers, which make it incumbent upon us and Syria to shoulder our responsibilities and strengthen our ties in order to face the Zionist dangers that threaten us both in Palestine and Syria.

UAE Paper Interviews PFLP Political Bureau Member

GF021745 Ash-Shariqah AL-KHALIJ in Arabic 2 May 83 p 16

[Interview with Taysir Quba'ah, member of the PFLP Political Bureau, by unidentified AL-KHALIJ correspondent in Banghazi — date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-KHALIJ: Why did the departure from Beirut take place?

Quba'ah: After our departure from Beirut, bombs continued to fall on us, but this time they were not cluster or vacuum bombs. They were political bombs, and these are more dangerous than the cluster bombs. Proposals such as the question of participation and Palestinian representation, the Reagan plan, and the Fes plan were made. The aim was to create further splits within the Palestinian revolution, and even within the same faction, in order to weaken the Palestinian revolution and control it.

The PNC meeting in Algiers was very successful because it preserved national unity by agreeing on a program on our minimal demands. The thrust of the program was to resist the policy of U.S. imperialism and the Reagan plan and to reject the principle of delegation of Jordan's participation or representation [of the Palestinians] and to reject a federation, while affirming Arab unity and our anxiousness that an independent Palestine will be an indivisible part of the Arab homeland.

Frankly, we in the Palestinian revolution did not view the Fes plan as a Palestinian plan. We view it as an Arab plan that meets the minimal demands and we assert that it lacks the military option. At the Algiers meeting we emphasized the military option. For the first time a clear resolution was adopted opposing the Reagan plan and rejecting any alternative representative for the Palestinians other than the PLO.

AL-KHALIJ: How much are the recent PNC decisions being implemented?

Quba'ah: The important thing is first to formulate the resolution and then struggle to implement it. We have formulated the resolution. I am sure that the brothers in the Palestinian revolution are fully aware of the importance of national unity — the secret weapon with which we face the enemy. Therefore, the Palestinian revolution will continue to be tied to these resolutions.

I am confident that my brother the commander in chief, Abu 'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat], will not abandon the PNC resolutions, that is, he will not give Jordan the right to participate on behalf of the PLO or delegate it to represent the Palestinians and the PLO. I am 100-percent sure of this.

If the aim of negotiations is to annul any of the PLO's rights, then the negotiations will fail. However, we welcome coordination with Jordan on the military confrontation of the Israeli enemy.

AL-KHALIJ: Is there any coordination with Syria to confront the possible battle in Al-Biqa' for instance?

Quba'ah: I am guided here by the recent PNC resolutions which devoted a special article to relations with Syria. This is evidence of the awareness of the Palestinian revolution of the importance of coordination with Syria and of the nature of the joint strategic relationship with it. We, Syria, and the Lebanese national forces are in the same frontline trench. We cannot do without each other politically, militarily, or geopolitically, particularly as we have the same political line, namely, to resist the imperialist plan in the region.

As for any misunderstanding that might exist among brothers, I am confident that the inevitable coming battle and the awareness of all the parties of the importance of uniting the Palestinian-Lebanese-Syrian ranks will overcome any obstacle or threat to Syrian-PLO relations.

The misunderstanding is a result of the battle of Beirut. This is because there was a lack of coordination between Syria and the PLO in confronting the Zionist invasion. However, serious efforts are now being made to eliminate the misunderstanding. Brother Abu 'Ammar also is serious in this regard. We will not allow reactionary, Zionist, and imperialist forces to exploit this matter.

All the indications are that a war is likely to take place in Al-Biqa'. This is because Israel's policy is expansionist and based on aggression. Israeli leaders have threatened to attack Syria because it has received sophisticated weapons. It is possible that Israel will launch a preemptive strike whose aims would not be confined to striking at the missiles and occupying Al-Biqa', but may go further than that in order to achieve political gains. However, the forces of the Palestinian revolution and the Syrian forces will respond decisively to such an aggression if it should take place.

AL-KHALIJ: Following Andropov's rise to power, has there been an escalation in Soviet support for Syria and the Palestinian revolution?

Quba'ah: I believe that the Soviet Union has constantly supported Arab causes, particularly the Palestinian cause. However, we are responsible for some of the defeats. Why then do we blame the Soviet Union? One of the aims of the imperialist plans is to drive a wedge in the relations between the Arabs and the Soviet Union.

As for the performance of Soviet weapons, let me ask: Are not the Kalashnikov guns and the RPG's Soviet weapons? We have fought with Soviet weapons, and the Egyptians crossed the Suez Canal in the October 1973 war with Soviet weapons.

The Soviet Union's policy is decided by the party's central conferences and not by individuals — the relative differences between the influence of one individual and another notwithstanding. It is said that Andropov is closer to the region than his predecessor. Soviet policy says: The Soviet Union will not leave the region, and just as the United States supports Israel, we shall support Syria and the Palestinian revolution.

Arab League's Klibi Views Mideast Situation

PM270910 Paris AN-NAHAR AL-'ARABI WA AD-DUWALI in Arabic 25 Apr 83 pp 18-22

[Interview with Arab League Secretary General Chadli Klibi by Bisharah al-Bun in Tunis — date not given]

[Excerpts] Question: Lebanon is today negotiating with Israel in order to secure the withdrawal of its forces. What will be the League's attitude in the event that Lebanon signs an agreement with Israel?

Answer: I cannot speak on behalf of the Arab community without basing my statement on resolutions adopted by it. Therefore, in the absence of a collective resolution the secretary general cannot deal with affairs connected with the future. But what we can do is to analyze the situation on the basis of criteria consistent with the national consensus. We recall that when the attack against Lebanon took place early last June it was called "Peace for Galilee," which means that Israel publicly declared as its objective the protection of its northern borders with Lebanon.

The U.S. Government defended Lebanon in the international arenas and for its part the Lebanese Government declared its readiness to accept measures that would bolster peace and security on the Israeli borders, on condition that this did not jeopardize Lebanese sovereignty. So what more does Israel want? In fact we have heard President Reagan himself say that the United States is prepared to protect Israel's northern borders. What more guarantees can there be?

So I do not see that getting involved with Israel in a peace process is desirable here, because what Israel wants is the acceptance of a peace agreement.

Question: What about a security agreement?

Answer: A security agreement is a different matter. It is acceptable on the condition that it does not jeopardize Lebanese sovereignty. As for the other proposals advanced by Israel, they should be placed in the context of a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian problem and the other Arab problems.

This is consistent with the Lebanese interest and the national interest and is not contrary to the objectives which Israel announced at the beginning of the invasion.

Question: You said that the Arab world is in a race against time. Do you believe that the Arabs lost the first round of this race following the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue?

Answer: On the contrary, you will be suprised to know that I was satisfied with the temporar suspension of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks because I was afraid that emotions — particularly Arab emotions — would overwhelm objectivity in the negotiations. I always prefer things to be clear from the beginning so that we will not be disappointed in the end. The suspension of the talks at this preliminary stage shows that both sides are aware of the importance and the seriousness of the talks and that they are seeking thoroughness in the talks.

That is why I have said several times that the talks have not ceased forever but have been suspended until both sides determine their stands and clarify certain points. We must emphasize U.S. responsibility in this regard. The Arabs put forward the Fes plan, which we thought would be received with much praise by the West and the United States in particular. They said that this step should be followed by other steps. In fact, the Fes plan is a revolutionary reversal in the Arab mentality. We now see that the United States is asking nothing from Israel and everything from the Arabs.

On what basis is the United States asking the Palestinians to join the peace process? What signs are there to indicate strong U.S. resolve and effective U.S action to facilitate the peace process?

The United States has so far taken no action to create an atmosphere encouraging negotiation. There is a lack of trust.

The negotiations for withdrawal from Lebanon have been faltering for many long months, and settlements are incessantly being built in the West Bank in open Israeli defiance of President Reagan. Where is the U.S. influence?

The U.S. plan itself was rejected. It was not rejected with inoffensive words but rather with audacity and rudeness. Now

Israel declares that the U.S. plan is dead and buried. What is there to inspire hopes among the Palestinians of reaching a positive result?

How can we ask a revolution — that comprises several parties — to take a risk in the absence of any objective proof? The PLO is not recognized by the United States, which also does not recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. So far the United States has been unable to guarantee the sovereignty and independence of Lebanon, which is a relatively easy matter compared with the Palestinian problem.

The United States has not helped to create an atmosphere that would encourage all the Arab parties and particularly the party mainly concerned — the Palestinians — to join the peace process. The Arab side is afraid of meeting the same fate as President as-Sadat. President as-Sadat took a risk, thinking that he would find full U.S. backing, but while in midstream he found that U.S. support was lacking. This was mentioned by his former Foreign Minister Muhammad Ibrahim Kamil in his memoirs published recently. The Arab side is afraid of suffering the same disappointment as the Egyptian president suffered.

and is the convening of the summit conditional on the resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian dialogue?

Answer: The convening of the proposed extraordinary summit depends on the outcome of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks. It is necessary that these talks should be resumed and should lead to a full bilateral agreement, so that the outcome can be put to the summit. We hope that this will be possible during the coming few weeks, so that whatever the two sides agree will be backed by an Arab consensus.

Question: The Arabs are still pursuing the peace option and are awaiting the convening of the extraordinary Arab summit. If the U.S. answer is not as expected, will the Arabs be able to resort to the military option, as Syria is asking them to do?

Answer: I would like to correct what is being said about Syria's call for the military option. Syria is not calling for the military option; rather it is calling for building up a strategic balance between the Arabs and Israel.

This balance is now totally upset. In order for the Arab side of the scales to be reasonably weighty, the imbalance must be rectified.

Therefore, I believe that no Arab side is calling for military confrontation. Our countries say instead: Experience has taught us that Israel always resorts to the use of force to achieve its objectives. Even against a small and peaceful state that did not take part in any of the previous wars — that is Lebanon — Israel used a barbaric force. Only those who lived in Beirut know what the city sufferred.

Therefore, we cannot be so naive as to trust peace with Israel. We must take precautions and as far as possible follow the Roman precept that says: "If you want peace, prepare for war." We cannot be fully prepared for war because Israel is stronger than all the Arab countries put together in view of its inherent strength and the continued U.S. support it receives. We are not so naive as to think that we will be able to match Israel's military strength or become superior to it within a short time. But Israel should understand that any aggression against any Arab state will not be easy for it and will be costly for it in both lives and material.

We do want peace; the Fes plan is our peace plan, and it was approved by Syria. But in addition to peace we must take precautions, because Begin and his government do not want the kind of peace we want. The peace we want is the peace that is compatible with international law and international legitimacy, which means that the territories occupied in 1967 must be returned to the Arabs.

Israel does not accept this concept of peace because it wants to keep the land that it occupied in 1967, which it considers part of greater Israel: Arab Jerusalem is now part of Israel's "eternal capital." The West Bank and Gaza are part of greater Israel, and so is the Golan. Israel wants to undermine peace efforts so that it will be able to Judaize this area and make it Israeli territory forever. When the U.S. President is preoccupied with the election this coming fall and the Middle East is remote from his interests, Israel will exploit that time. It will seek to topple Reagan and bring in a new president who will need time to study the files. He in turn will be aspiring to a second term in office, and to succeed he will need the Jewish vote. This is the Israeli plan. Israel wants to impose the Israeli peace, which in essence means Israeli hegemony.

We should work for peace and not leave a single country open to barbaric Israeli attack, whether Lebanon, Jordan — God forbid — or Syria or Iraq.

Ours is a peace option consistent with the will of the international community.

Question: You said that it will not be easy in the future for Israel to attack. Does this mean that this time the Soviet Union will not let Syria and the Arabs face Israel alone?

Answer: I said that we should have a minimum of strength so that we can react to every action and so that Israel will understand that for any aggression against any Arab state there will be a price to be paid. Israel must know in advance that the cost of its aggression will be high in both lives and material.

We cooperate with whomever wants to cooperate with us from any camp. The leader of one Arab state, who in the West is described as revolutionary, said that if the United States agrees to cooperate with us as it cooperates with Israel, then we will have no other option [but to accept]. The problem is that the United States does not want to cooperate with the Arab countries as we would like it to.

Question: But there is apprehension about this U.S. political retreat. There is also some kind of Soviet military and diplomatic thrust in the area.

Answer: This is true. We have often said this to U.S. officials. We also say that we prefer the peace process to be based on the

generally accepted international legality and to rely on a distinguished U.S. role, because of the special U.S. relationship with Israel.

Unlike President as-Sadat, we do not say that all the cards are in U.S. hands. Rather we say that most of the cards are in its hands and, therefore, we must deal with it and depend on it. But if we cannot launch the peace proces. then the Americans will be the losers, because they will gradually lose the area and its people. Because if despair replaces the hope of an effective U.S. role, the Arab peoples will gradually turn toward other powers, toward the Soviet Union, for example. How can we blame a desperate person looking for a way out?

The United States must understand this in the matter of the Arab peoples, the PLO, and the various factions it comprises. At the Arab summit we can make all the Arab countries and all the revolutionary factions pursue one course, the course of the FES plan, but we cannot guarantee the pursuit of this course indefinitely. If the United States cannot prove its credibility and its sincere and true desire to launch the peace process with its friend Israel, despair could prevail. We all know what kind of advice a desperate person gives.

Question: You have asked Europe to play a certain role, and it was said that you suggested to FRG Foriegn Minister Genscher, in his capacity as chairman of the European Council of Ministers, that a European initiative be taken toward the United States with a view to pressuring it to adopt a more flexible stand.

Answer: What we ask from our European friends is not an initiative, because we have before us many initiatives. We believe that it is the duty of our friends in the world to support the Arab plan. In fact I have heard from many friendly European officials, including Mr Genscher, positive remarks about the Fes plan.

What we ask from our European friends is to try to do two things: First, persuade the Americans of the need to build bridges between the Arab plan and the American plan. Such bridges can be built through various efforts. Our Arab stand is represented by one point: that the United States should agree to recognize the Palestinian people's right to self-determination. This is an established principle in U.S. foreign policy. We are not asking from the United States something that is alien to its political philosophy. U.S. society itself is founded on this principle.

Second, we ask the Europeans to persuade the U.S. Administration of the need to act quickly in order to gain time, so that we do not lose this round and find in the fall that the game is over. We want to quicken our steps now and in the coming few months. This can come about only if the United States exerts real pressure on Israel, unlike the sanction announced a few days ago, that is, postponement of the delivery of Phantom planes due to be delivered to Israel in a number of years' time, only for us to hear today that, in return for this sanction, the United States has presented a gift to israel — the gift of enabling it to manufacture important military hardware, for which Israeli Defense Minister Arens has thanked Secretary Shultz.

Question: You have proposed the idea of holding an international Arab-Jewish conference. Do you believe that this idea is still feasible following the assassination of Dr as-Sartawi, one of the proponents of Arab-Israeli dialogue?

Answer: I said that the idea was proposed to us by Chancellor Kreisky. It is my duty to convey it to the Arab countries for their decision. The General Secretariat cannot act on it without an Arab consensus.

Islamic Committee Member on Gulf War Mediation

GF021511 Jidda Domestic Service in Arabic 1400 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] 'Abd al-Hakim al-Wali, member of the committee for peace and reconciliation between Iraq and Iran emerging from the Islamic Conference Organization, expressed regret over Iran's refusal to receive the committee members and indicated the committee's readiness to go to Tehran to end the disputes between the two sides. In a press conference held in the Iraqi Embassy in Jidda today he stated that Iraqi President Saddam Husayn declared his readiness to accept any decision issued by the Islamic Conference Organization.

The member of the committee called on all those who want security and peace in the region to endeavor to end this destructive war in which many people are being killed, the economies are being destroyed, and no one is benefitting except Zionism and Israel. He pointed out that the followup committee which emerged from the Islamic Conference Organization will meet later today in Baghdad to review Iran's refusal to receive the committee members.

KUWAIT

Reports on Kuwait Palestinian Meeting Denied

GF021457 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 1 May 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Faruq Qaddumi, head of the PLO Political Department, will arrive in Kuwait today on a visit, during which he will brief officials on the recent developments in the Palestinian arena.

An official Palestinian source in Kuwait has denied to AL-WATAN press reports that the Palestinian leadership will hold a meeting in Kuwait on 6 May.

Defense Minister Departs for France 2 May

LD021058 Kuwait KUNA in English 1002 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Kuwait, May 2 (KUNA) — Defense Minister Shaykh Salim as-Sabah left here Monday for Paris for talks with his French counterpart Charles Hernu and other government officials.

During his two-day official visit, Shaykh Salim is to discuss with Hernu the different aspects of the Franco-Kuwaiti cooperation which is "based on trust and friendship between the two countries," the French Defense Ministry said in a statement last night.

In the framework of that cooperation, France and Kuwait have recently concluded "an important arms operation," it indicated but failed to give details.

Shaykh Salim, who is accompanied by a ranking delegation of military officers, is due to visit French military installations and attend a tank and helicopter show in one of the French army's units.

In Paris, French military sources told KUNA that Kuwait has placed orders for the purchase of "Mirage F-1" fighter aircrafts and "AMX" tank carriers and probably the most sophisticated anti-radar "ARMAT" missiles developed by Matra. The Kuwaiti Army already has "Mirage F-1" in addition to arms including 155 mm cannons installed on "AMX 30" tank carriers, "Gazelle SA-342" helicopters, "Puma" transport helicopters, anti-tank "hot" missiles, and air-to-air "Magic" and "Super-530" missiles manufactured by the French group Matra, they added.

Shaykh Salim, however, was quoted by the press here today as saying that no agreements with the French Government on arms supplies to Kuwait will be signed during his visit. He told AL-WATAN daily that the visit to Paris was in response to an invitation by the French Defense Minister Charles Hernu, adding that he will also meet with French Premier Pierre Mauroy, but he will not have the chance to meet with the French President, who is visiting abroad. The Kuwaiti official said that he will also discuss with the French leaders the Gulf war, the Middle East crisis in its entirety as well as means to promote cooperation between Kuwait and France in various fields.

SAUDI ARABIA

'UKAZ: Shultz Mideast Mission Ignores PLO

PM021526 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 28 Apr 83 p 3

[Editorial: "Shultz and the Possibility of a Comprehensive Settlement in the Area"]

[Excerpts] The Zionist state has received U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz while fully aware of the U.S. Administration's insistence on the need to reach a final solution to the question of the withdrawal of the invading Israeli forces from Lebanon.

All the signs so far indicate that the terrorist Menahem Begin will resort to the well-known Zionist tactic of making a concession here in order to obtain something in return there. The concession the terrorist Menahem Begin intends to make to Shultz will be in Lebanon. We recall here the recent statements by Begin and Arens that, if the Zionist state was going to make any concessions, these would be made in Lebanon and to Shultz personally.

But the real problem the whole area is facing is not reaching agreement about withdrawal from Lebanon, but tackling the second stage of the Middle East problem, which is the withdrawal of the Zionist forces from the Arab territories occupied in 1967 — that is, the West Bank, Gaza, and the Syrian Golan.

This will be the most difficult and critical part of Shultz' present shuttle diplomacy in the area. All the Arab countries, including Syria and the PLO, have agreed on ending foreign presence of all kinds in Lebanon, and have promised the Lebanese administration they will withdraw when asked to do so. But there is a fundamental condition for doing so — the unconditional withdrawal of all Israeli forces without jeopardizing Syrian security.

Israel will seek to give Shultz concessions in Lebanon that it will try to portray as a major step and a great favor to the U.S. Administration, which is trying to prove its credibility in the Arab area.

But the Reagan administration and the Arab nation realize that U.S. credibility cannot be divisible; total Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon is incomplete without solving the fundamental problem, the Palestinian problem. Therefore, we believe that Shultz, while not saying so as he waits for the success of his first step, realizes that Washington's credibility cannot be confirmed in Lebanon alone, but only on the basis of a comprehensive settlement that facilitates the establishment of just and lasting peace in the Middle East, based primarily on the Palestinian people's right to establish an independent state of their own.

In this regard, Shultz' visit to Syria is of great importance for the U.S. move that aims at reaching an understanding with all parties.

But there remains an important step that Washington should take, namely, to contact the PLO, because Shultz' efforts cannot bear fruit if the U.S. Administration insists on its attitude toward

the PLO, which is a principal party that cannot be excluded from efforts to establish peace and reach a comprehensive settlement in the area.

UK Paper on Infighting in Saudi Royal Family

PM022226 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 28 Apr 83 p 5

[John Bulloch report: "Foreign Interest in Saudi Rulers' Power Struggle"]

[Text] A power struggle within Saudi Arabia's ruling family, which in the past has led to widespread arrests, imprisonment and even attempted revolts, has begun to involve external powers, according to reports reaching London.

As well as Pakistan, which has troops based at three separate places in the Kingdom to help protect government installations, Bangladesh has also offered its services to King Fahd.

Gen Ziaul Haq of Pakistan seems concerned to support a friendly and likeminded Islamic regime.

But the Bangladeshis appear to be motivated by financial considerations: they have offered to send troops in return for far smaller subsidies than are now paid by Saudi Arabia to Pakistan.

At the same time, Syria is taking an almost open interest in the rivalry between the factions in the Saudi Royal family, which has more than 5,000 princes. The Syrians have always supported Prince 'Abdallah who commands the National Guard.

The Guard, also known as the white army, is the Bedouin force which was carefully built up as a counter-weight to the Saudi Army.

It still draws its men from the desert tribes, although the Guard is now armed with tanks, arillery, and modern weapons equivalent to those deployed by the army itself. It has 30,000 men compared to 40,000 in the army.

King Fahd, who took over on the death of his half-brother, King Khalid, 10 months ago is one of the "Sudayri seven" the seven sons of 'Abd al-'Aziz founder of the Kingdom, by a wife from the Sudayri clan. Prince 'Abdallah, like King Khalid, is one of the sons of 'Abd al-'Aziz through a wife from the Jalawi clan, which comes from the eastern provinces of the Kingdom.

In a careful division of authority when he became King, Fahd named Prince 'Abdallah as Crown Prince, the position he had held himself. But the move did little to reconcile the two factions and Prince 'Abdallah still speaks only once a week to his half brother Prince Sultan, the army commander. For years the two did not speak at all.

The basic division between the factions in Saudi Arabia is over the pace of modernisation and liberalisation. Prince 'Abdullah has the support of the ulema, the Moslem clergy, who oppose most "modern" manifestations in the Kingdom. Women are still not allowed to drive cars, and there are no cinemas.

At the instigation of King Fahd, both when he was crown prince and as king, Saudi Arabia has taken a more active role in inter-Arab affairs. In recent months that seems to have diminished, implying some success by Prince 'Abdallah and the "traditionalists."

Meanwhile, Prince 'Abdallah, who has a new Syrian wife from the Alawite sect of President al-Asad of Syria, has been in indirect contact with the Soviet Union which would welcome almost any change in the Kingdom.

Persistent reports from inside Saudi Arabia confirm a crackdown against religious fundamentalists, and the arrest of some Saudis found in possession of arms. Diplomats fear that the new interest of outsiders means that the divisions in the country have not been healed. They also noted the dismissal of a Saudi minister a week ago with no explanation given, and the fact that King Fahd now by-passes the Saudi Embassy in Washington in his dealings with the Americans.

SPA: New Ministerial Appointments Approved

LD022146 Riyadh SPA in English 1918 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpt] Jidda, May 2, SPA — Two royal decrees were issued here tonight, the first approving the appointment of Ibrahim ibn 'Abdallah al-'Anqari as a minister for municipality and rural affairs.

The second decree also approved the appointment of Muhammad al-'Ali al-Fa'iz as minister for labour and social affairs.

PDRY

Chairman Receives Message From Fidel Castro

GF301732 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Brother 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the YSP Central Committee, chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the Council of Ministers, received a written message from Comrade Fidel Castro, secretary general of the Cuban Communist Party Central Committee and president of the Councils of State and Ministers, in which he expressed appreciation for the the clear and positive positions of the PDRY on the political situation in the region and the unity of the Nonaligned Movement countries.

He pointed out in his message that the spirit of understanding, steadfastness, and unity, displayed by the majority of the nonaligned delegation leaders at the Seventh Nonaligned Summit Conference in New Delhi, contributed to the conference being a marvelous success. The cooperation with Cuba also achieved just and logical solutions for causes and problems that arose during the period Cuba was the chairman of the Nonaligned Movement.

Military Official Interviewed on USSR Visit

For the Moscow radio account of the undated interview given by (Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad), first deputy chairman of the PDRY Army General Political-Military Administration, on his visit to the USSR, see the Middle East & North Africa section of the 3 May Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

UAE

Japan Trade Minister Holds UAE Press Conference

GF021623 Abu Dhabi WAM in Arabic 1325 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 2 May (WAM) — Japanese International Trade and Industry Minister Sadanori Yamanaka has said that during his talks with the state officials, he proposed that the Japanese tankers which transport oil from the UAE to Japan supply the UAE with drinking water on their way back to the country because they usually return empty.

In a press conference today, he said that trade relations between Japan and the UAE are continuously increasing and that the trade balance is in favor of the UAE because UAE exports to Japan amounted to $7.98 billion in 1982 against $1.49 billion worth of Japanese exports to the UAE.

Crude oil makes up the biggest share of UAE exports to Japan, while processed materials make up the biggest share of Japanese exports to the UAE.

President Mubarak Delivers May Day Speech

NC011125 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0808 GMT 1 May 83

[May Day Speech delivered by President Muhammad Husni Mubarak on 1 May at the Labor University in Nasr — live]

[Text] In the name of God, the compassionate and the merciful. Cherished brothers and sisters, dutiful children of Egypt: I address my sincere cordial greetings to every one of you on these blessed days on which our struggling people are celebrating May Day following their celebration of the holiday of the liberation of their sacred land of Sinai. [applause]

Thus, two days become one. They epitomize a great meaning and a deep and clear significance, that serious work alone is the course leading to the achievement of the supreme inter-Arab goals. Work is also the real value of man's life and the solid foundation of all achievement and advancement. This is why God and His prophets honored work and workers. It was our due to aid those who believed. [Koranic verse]

We know quite well that the road that led to the liberation of Sinai was not a smooth and paved road, strewn with roses. It was a thorny road teeming with mines and enormous obstacles — a road demanding the heaviest sacrifices. However, our noble people never hesitated to defy these difficulties and dangers, because our people were built up on making sacrifices and on redemption. They grew up on sanctifying Egypt's name and pure soil. They instinctively adhere to pride and dignity. They never slackened in facing the imperialists. Their will did not weaken in confronting usurpers and occupiers, nor did their determination abate in accepting the most difficult challenges. On the contrary, in all the steps they have taken, their motto has been: We redeem you with ourselves, O Egypt! [applause]

Redemption is not just a glittering expression uttered by mouth; it is a principled stance and an ethical commitment that is reflected in the daily behavior of individuals and groups and that finds its true expression in the diligent work that is performed by the millions of honorable citizens in silence and piety. These citizens work only for the sake of God and for the homeland's interests. Therefore, workers in the fields or factories are exactly like worshippers in their prayer niches and hermits in their retreats, spreading good, achieving glory, and making strides for humanity. Therefore, workers deserve to be elevated by their nation to the ranks of saints and martyrs. [applause]

The liberation of Sinai was a splendid fruit of cohesion of the Egyptian front, of solidarity among all the people, and of their competition in serving their homeland and their nation, without any discrimination being made in the rendering of this service between the military and the civilians, or between officials and laymen. Therefore, the immortal saga of October came as the result of supernatural efforts which all Egyptian men and women exerted with their toil and minds, with their pens and weapons, with youthful arms and reassured hearts, with their lives and blood, and with knowledge and work. It was inevitable that fate would respond and that this people were destined to triumph and that occupation had to terminate. [applause and cheers]

We will always remember with esteem and appreciation our valiant Armed Forces' heroic acts [applause] under difficult and hard circumstances. The pages of history recorded all these heroic actions, although many of them are still not publicized or known. The liberation [of Sinai] was a cherished hope entertained by 'Abd an-Nasir. [applause] It was also a heroic act carried out by Anwar as-Sadat, the one who made the decision of the crossing and the hero of war and peace, whose great actions and whose sacrifices for his homeland will remain a lofty edifice and a magnificent model of heroism and patriotism — despite the hatred of the rancorous ones. It was also a splendid achievement in which all the sons of this great people participated — the soldier in his trench, the worker in his factory, the farmer in his field, the teacher in his school, the scientist in his laboratory, and the artist in his studio. Thus, the great liberation came as a divine song cherished by Providence and carried out by the people's will and deserved its place in the magnificent human records. [applause] This was the significance of the manner in which the liberation ceremony was carried out this year — inauguration of agricultural and industrial projects, expansion of construction in the heart of the desert, and development of services and public utilities. Liberation in fact is hard and continuing work and its fruits are commensurate with the efforts and sacrifices made. Liberation is not a luxury or a gift given by fate without calculation.

It is worthwhile for us to take inspiration from this great event to kindle the torch of the new revival, evoke a spirit of the great civilization we devote ourselves to achieving in Egypt, and pledge to God to wage its fierce battle whatever the challenges. Egypt's future is in the balance and the question has become, frankly speaking, a question of to be or not to be. [applause]

Dear brothers sand sisters, foremost of the challenges facing us is the consolidation of the peace march and its pillars, because the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East is a firm strategic line of our policy and an indispensable condition for achieving security and stability for all the region's peoples. Peace can enable all the area's peoples to direct their potential and resources to the economic and social development which is of vital importance to their present and future. Therefore, we are exerting strenuous efforts to complete the links of peace and to remove the obstacles placed in its way, and we urge all parties to resort to reason and logic, to abide by legitimacy and law, and to put the people's basic interests above any other consideration.

It is an established fact that the first step which must be taken immediately and without any delay or hesitation is the termination of the Israeli occupation of Lebanon and the elimination of all its consequences. The attrition this occupation causes and the complications it creates daily will lead to more tension, escalate the trend toward violence, shake the people's confidence in peace, and waste the existing momentum which was generated after hard efforts and encormous sacrifices.

Because the United States has shouldered the responsibility of participating in the staunching of blood and in making peace, I made it clear to the U.S. secretary of state — during my meeting with him on 26 April — that achievement within the next few days of an honorable agreement — one that would end the Israeli

occupation and preserve Lebanon's sovereignty and dignity — is a matter of superior priority in our opinion.

We believe President Amin al-Jumayyil has exhibited unique courage and great wisdom in dealing with the situation under harsh and delicate circumstances which could dishearten the greatest men. We owe it to him as he is waging the last stage of the battle to provide him with collective Arab support and clear international backing now that he has earned the confidence of his people and the admiration of his nation.

Moreover, we must exploit the existing momentum to start the settlement of the Palestinian question, because the situation is serious and critical. Danger surrounds the people who live under occupation and feel the threat to which their land, rights, and identity are subjected. We continue to call for the quick conclusion of an agreement between Jordan and the PLO concerning their participation in shouldering national responsibility. The question is not one of argument and discussion inside the Arab family. It is a great historic responsibility which none of us could shirk or avoid. Anyone who does so will actually contribute to the loss of the land and the squandering of rights. On this basis, I have invited his Majesty King Husayn, a statesman whose far-sightedness and daring we are proud of, to maintain the dialogue with the PLO leadership in order to preserve the Palestinian national interests. It gives me pleasure to declare that I have received an assurance from the Jordanian monarch to this effect in a letter which I received a few days ago.

I have also addressed the U.S. Administration on the need to maintain the PLO's role in the peace efforts and pointed out that it is wrong to contemplate fighting it or belittling it, because it is the machinery which the Palestinian people have chosen to represent them and protect their interests. It is a choice the Arab nation endorsed by a unanimous decision it adopted in November 1974.

In the light of these combined facts, we believe the vital interests of the Palestinian people demand dealing positively with the existing initiatives to achieve a peaceful settlement, the foremost of them the Reagan initiative, which we consider as a good start along the path that must ultimately lead to the Palestinian people's exercise of their right for self-determination. This is a natural right which cannot be ignored or denied when the wheel of peace starts turning and the wave of foreign domination begins receding, because liberation is a commitment which international society has acknowledged and turned into a basis of the international system after the World War II.

What is important is taking the first step in the process of transformation from the reality of the occupation and foreign rule to practicing national authority and independent will.

I would like it to be clear that there is no way to continue the peace discussions without a Jordanian-Palestinian participation. This is because the evolution of events last year made this participation — whose roots extend to the framework for peace in the Middle East — a principal factor guaranteeing achievement of a relaxation in the situation and the ending of the present impasse in the discussions caused by the Israeli intransigence.

The Palestinian people are the party mainly concerned with any possible arrangements to achieve peace in Palestinian territory. They will enjoy the rights and bear the commitments inherent in an agreement. It is in the interest of a lasting peace that they participate from the first phases.

The fundamental requirements to achieve stability in the area include ending the Iranian-Iraqi war, whose dangers are increasing daily. The voice of the forces calling for an end to the war is getting louder because its continuation threatens the interests of all the peoples in the area, threatens their resources with no benefits to anyone, and contravenes God's laws and teachings.

While we greet the Iraqi people's steadfastness and their sacrifices in defending their territory [applause] under their wise leadership, we express our full concern over the Iranian people's safety and their right to a free and secure life. They are fraternal people with whom we are linked by the firmest relations and deepest ties. There can be no real contradiction in interests between them and any Arab people because what is between us is stronger than anything time can destroy.

Compatriots, the lessons of history and other peoples' experience have taught us that nations build their glories with hard work, seriousness, and clarity. The peoples who followed this course have been able to compensate for a shortage of natural and material resources and to fill the gap between them and the advanced industrial states, which destiny granted better circumstances. We have had the opportunity to sense some aspects of the unique Japanese experiment, which constitutes a bright leaf in mankind's history. These Asian people have proved that serious work is the basis of every progress and that natural resources are an element that can be controlled and neutralized. This is because man's will is the energy capable of exploding miracles and of changing the course of history. It is also because mankind is the decisive element in determining the future of the economic and social development and of various aspects of collective activity. Man is the producer, inventor, and achiever.

If Japan has been capable of achieving a giant leap under difficult circumstances despite the setback it sustained at the end of World War II, there is no one more worthy of following its footsteps than Egypt, which brought about man's first meeting with civilization and which alone shouldered the burden of changing human society from a savage and backward state to the age of enlightenment and scientific, technical, and artistic renaissance.

Egypt arrived at the secrets of the universe and astronomy, solved the most difficult mathematical problems, arrived at differentiating between the soul and body, and realized the [existence of] immortal paradise and the other life at a time when other societies were drowning in the darkness of backwardness, ignorance, and decay.

Egypt had the greatest renaissance in the East in contemporary times when under Muhammad 'Ali's command it became a great power which asserted itself in the East and the West and which realized great achievements in the fields of industry, agriculture, and in the military and civilian arts and sciences.

Egypt originated the 1919 revolution, thus illuminating the path for oppressed peoples who suffered under occupation, domination, and exploitation. It followed that with the 1952 revolution [applause] which shouldered the greater burden in liquidating colonialism in Asia, Africa, and everywhere. It was also able to break the ground for the Third World peoples struggling for a better life for mankind.

Egypt was a bridge for communication and interaction between the Arab and Islamic cultures on one side and the Greek, Roman, and Asian cultures on the other. It has safeguarded mankind's legacy and its great spiritual stock. This is how Egypt was in the distant and near past and this is how Egypt will remain now and in the future. This bright record has not been in history by accident but because it has been a mirror reflecting the very nature of this people and their qualifications to perform the greatest mission. [applause]

Brothers, I firmly believe that this new renaissance can only be undertaken by the Egyptian youth who alone can transform a dream into reality and can interpret hopes and wishes into tangible reality. This is done by a firm will, strong determination, and a readiness for sacrifices for the sake of sublime principles and high goals. They can achieve the required coupling of idealism with realism and can proceed from the present, with all its restrictions and limits, to the future, with its vast horizons and wide dimensions. When we speak about the youth we look first to the working youth because work has purified their hearts, deepened their affiliation, made them capable of sacrificing for the homeland, and imbedded in them the true concepts of humanitarian relations and the objective of life. Therefore, heavenly laws regard work as part of the veneration and holy struggle [jihad] for God.

The faithful youth capable of leading national action are the ones who look for what they can give to their homeland before asking what the homeland can give them. This is because the homeland can only give as much as its sincere sons can achieve by their brains, hands,and hearts. On its part the state will spare no effort to safeguard the workers' rights and interests. The society which does not honor its toiling workers and does not ensure their life and future will be a society in which loyalty is lost [applause], values are overturned, and standards are defective.

The state responded to the General Labor Federation's request to raise the minimum wages and pensions until it reached 24 pounds [monthly] in 1982, after it was 6 pounds in 1975; that is an increase of 400 percent during 7 years. The social insurance has also been developed. The state cares for laborers deployed outside the country. Law 119 of 1982 was enacted to regulate the deployment of Egyptian workers abroad and to protect them against exploitation and oppression. The state's policy in this connection will continue as a firm and progressive trend because the worker's dignity is the homeland's security and safety. [applause]

If we are truly determined to meet this great national mission, we must be frank with ourselves that Egypt needs further work and sweat from its sons to achieve its desires and goals and to attain the standing it deserves among the nations. Our basic problem can be summed up in the fact that we consume and import more than we produce and export. There is no magic wand that can remedy the results of this defect in the economic structure, which is generating many shocks to the social structure.

We must face the fact with sincerity and objectivity and with every faith in victory and confidence in the future. As long as the matter lies in our hands and is not dependent on outside factors, then achieving the required change should be in accordance with our will and vision confirming thereby Egyptian willpower and consolidating our right to free choices in all fields. This is an indisputable strategic objective.

I understand very well the crushing problems from which the people are suffering. I live their worries and troubles day and night. I know many of the honorable toiling citizens are finding great difficulty in providing food, clothing, and basic servies for themselves and their close relatives. I also know the citizen who does not find his daily food and a house to live in cannot be secure about himself or reassured about his future. Therefore, I have made this topic a top priority of the state duties at this phase. [applause] I also consider it a basic criterion for judging the success of the general national effort and for the steering of the government's general policy.

There is no doubt that the official departments must play a major role in this regard. However, we are all called upon to actually participate in correcting the problem through increasing production, limiting consumption, and halting indulgence in extravagance and luxuries and false appearances. The matter should not stop at the need to limit the quantities of food and commodities we consume; what is more important than this, in my estimation, is to change our consumption habits and our way of life and to follow a new course of life based on moderation in spending and planning for the future, regardless of the differences in incomes and revenue.

Because all of us have similar consumption habits and life styles, each one of us must participate in correcting the situation. What is important is that there should be real participation by all in shouldering these burdens and that the burden should be lifted as much as possible from the toiling groups who have suffered and borne a great deal. It remains that those who can should head the ranks and prove their worthiness of having the honor of belonging to Egypt and their ability to shoulder the responsibility and recognize this country's favors to them and the great resources it endowed them with. They should not be among he ungrateful whose hearts were sealed and whose eyes and discernment were blinded by God because ingratitude is not an Egyptian trait; gratitude and loylty are. [applause]

It interests me that it should be clear to all of us that, despite the magnitude of the difficulties we are facing, the scope is wide for reformation and achievement, provided there are sincere intentions, solid will, and sound vision and there is a national and comprehensive plan for advancement and development. Maybe it would be appropriate that together we glance at the progress achieved in the fields of production and services in the first 9 months of the 1982-83 fiscal year, not for speaking about the good performance of the state departments; no, but in order to become acquainted with the available possibilities for achieving

economic and social reform under a studied plan which was drawn up by all the official and popular establishments as well as by the professional and trade unions. That is why this plan has a national character that will guarantee it objectivity and stability.

First, gross national production at the end of the first 9 months of this [fiscal] year reached 26.1 billion pounds, equivalent to 70.8 percent of the 36.9-billion-pound total target in the 5-year plan. The most important components of GNP and what has achieved in them follow:

1. The agricultural sector's production reached 3.997 billion pounds, which is 71.3 percent of the general target.

2. Industrial and mining production reached about 7.487 billion pounds, which is 72.8 percent of the general target. We are still developing.

3. The value of oil and gas production has reached 1.955 billion pounds at current prices, or 60 percent of the target for the first year of the [5-year] plan. Don't forget that there is an oil subsidy of 2 billion pounds. Two thousands seven hundred? [apparently someone corrected Mubarak] Two thousands seven hundred million pounds. [words indistinct] Its price went down. [laughter]

4. The transportation, communications, and storage sector has achieved production to the tune of 1,269,500,000 pounds, or about 81 percent of the target. These are good indicators for the 5-year plan which is under way.

5. The value of electrical power derived during this period has reached about 194.2 million pounds or about 88 percent of the target for this year.

In general the growth in production capacity has continued at an annual rate of 8 percent. [words indistinct]

Second, in the sphere of investments, 65.4 percent of the original investment services of the plan were realized. You understand this because you are workers. Additional self-financed investments reached about 58.5 percent. The total implemented investments reached 2,798.4 million pounds. Investments with additional facilities totaling 408.4 million pounds should be added to this figure. This brings the total of firm investments realized in the first 9 months to 3,206,800,000 pounds. This volume shows that implementation of the plan is going according to schedule. This is a good sign.

I would like here to refer to the basic role of the public sector — we shall not sell it; stop the rumors. [laughter] You say sell it; we tell you that we shall not sell. I would like here to refer to the basic role of the public sector in implementing the investment plan. The investment plan for 1982/83 specified original investments of 3.935 billion pounds, of which by the end of March 2.573 billion pounds or about 65.4 percent had been invested.

Third, in the sphere of housing, 117,000 housing units have been built. This includes 70,000 economy-class units of a total of 72,000 units of this type planned for this year. As a result of the many proposals on the question of a ministry for popular housing, I am seriously thinking about this subject so that this ministry will pay attention and undertake popular housing. [applause]

Fourth, what has been achieved of the total current revenue planned for the whole year was 63.8 percent, while expenditure was 61.2 percent of the target. Do you understand this or not? You don't understand? You work in the Hilton, you don't understand this? [laughter] It should be noted that the transfers of citizens working abroad increased by 671 million pounds during this period. Of this, 290 million pounds represented a cash increase and 381 million pounds was an increase in kind.

Fifth, the current deficit in the balance of payments in this period amounted to 737 million pounds, which is less than half of the current deficit targeted for the fiscal year — also good — and which amounts to 1.58 billion pounds. It is also less than half last year's deficit of 1.53 billion pounds, despite the decrease in oil prices. When it comes to the decrease in oil prices, and so that we will know, because this country is our country, this year we lost $245 million — is that right? [commotion in background] (?In the full year) [words indistinct].

Sixth, in the first 7 months of the year, the increase in the total means of payment [il mali wasa'il ad-daf'] was confined to 16 percent, while the ratio for the same period last year was 27.7 percent. In the langage of economics — I am not an economist, but economists say so — this signifies a decrease in inflationary pressures. This sentence is a little difficult, but I attach great importance to this matter.

Seventh, more credit was channeled to the sectors of industry, agriculture, and housing by way of extending easy term loans to the projects included in these domains and by way of instituting a system for trade and family loans. The result was a rise in the volume of the credit made available for production targets to 600 million pounds.

Eighth, the state pursued a course of generating strong momentum for Egyptian and foreign investment. Up to the beginning of this year, approval was given for the implementation of 1,635 projects with a total capital of 7 billion pounds. These include 550 projects that have actually begun functioning — that is, about 50 percent of the total number of the projects approved. It is worth mentioning that 60 percent of these projects are owned by Egyptians at home and abroad, and this is a good sign. The state will continue to encourage investment in production and to give these investments every opportunity for success in their capacity as one of the main pillars of development and progress. [applause]

Added to all the above is the fact that we scrupulosuly want to strengthen the open-door line and to entrench it in our economic system. Openness represents a basic line of development because it puts capital to work, creates new job opportunities, and accommodates modern technology.

It is now established in our mind that the openness that we seek and that we want to entrench is producer openness. This openness guarantees the fulfillment of objectives that we aspire to, whether in their economic-investment dimension or in their social dimension.

Numerous rumors are circulated — incessantly. Some papers write unclear things. All these things are not beneficial to Egypt. We adhere to what we say. We will not say one thing and work on another one behind the people's back. For whose benefit will this be done? I have no interest in working this way; nor does the state have an interest in it.

We say: The public sector is the basic pillar. It is shameful for us to talk much [and to say] they will sell the sector. We will not sell the public sector. The public sector is not, for instance, a book case which we will hide from you. This is the public sector; it is the pillar of the country. We seek to develop it continuously — and we will not sell it. To those who are pushing, [I say:] spare yourselve the trouble. We will not sell it. It is impossible for it to be sold. Not a single patriotic person in Egypt would even think of selling the public sector, because this sector is the control on prices — to the limit that we can make it as much. [applause]

It is impossible for us to place the state's destiny in the hands of sectors alien to the state; that is impossible. There are countries in which there is no public sector; there is only a private sector, and it is not owned by the state's compatriots — well and good. However, this private sector is owned by foreigners. In such a state, [the compatriots] become employees. Perhaps they are paid, but by whom? By the large companies. They have no entity, nor do the have a will or any power. In addition, they cannot govern.

We will not sell the public sector. Do not keep talking about this subject, even if you hear others talking about it. Here, I personally tell you, do not believe it, because it will be a lie, a falsehood, and a distortion. This is absolutely impossible!

There is another thing that concerns openness. From time to time, it is said that nationalization is imminent. Nationalization of what? Do we sell lupine? This is a country. A decision was made to effect openness. There is openness. The country's future resides in maintaining our public sector and in developing it. We will not tamper with this openness. However, we will turn consumer openness into producer openness.

Never think that a button can be pressed and things can be transformed overnight. In other words, do not think that we will quickly find consumer openness turned into producer openness. This is impossible. This is how life is and how human beings are. It is illogical that, overnight, you will see factories that have been built and that have gone into production and [words indistinct]. This is a process that takes time. But our basic line is to encourage the production open-door policy.

[Someone in audience says something about rumors] What do the rumors say? We must be alert as to where the rumors come from. Our people must be alert. Our policy is clear. [The rumors say] the money, the dollars which the Egyptians deposit here, will be taken and exchanged for pounds by the government because it is facing a crisis. This, of course, is nonsense. What established state in the world, which has a policy and a plan, would arbitrarily do this? If I take the 2 or 3 billions deposited here, what will happen afterward? How much could 2 or 3 billion cover in the plan? This is nonsense. This is nonsense. Anyone who thinks logically will realize I cannot seize and cannot fool the people. Maybe I can fool them this year. What happens the year after? No one will bring anything.

As you know, brothers, these are all tendentious rumors to destroy us, to keep us as consumer people, and to keep us from progressing. We must be alert. The country is not mine alone; this country belongs to all of us. Everyone must work and participate and be aware of what is being said. We must not be naive and believe everything that may be said, because this will eventually lead to the destruction of our country, our economy, and a reduction in the standard of living — from which we are suffering. For this reason, we have drawn up a plan that we must abide by because this plan is the method which — as in the civilized world — will let us know where we are, where we were, where we are today, and where will we be in another few years. For this reason we are very careful to abide by the plan.

The significance of all these facts becomes clear if we take a look at the ambitious goals of the 5-year plan which we have begun implementing. If we have succeeded in achieving the targets in the first year of the plan, this means that we can achieve our goals in full at the end of June 1987. This is the only way. We must work on a scientific basis and on the basis of a plan, and we must not deviate from it. The importance and significance of this achievement must not be belittled.

In order for us to absorb the magnitude of this challenge, we must remember that the 5-year plan allocates 3.4 billion pounds for investment in water and sewage projects. You talk about sewage and water; we know about sewage and water. This problem has been going on for 20 years and it has been given sedatives as Brother Sa'd has said. We want to abandon the sedative approach. But we must be tolerant. The sewage system cannot be completed in 24 hours, a month, or a year. It requires several years, because it requires huge sums of money. The allocation for water and sewerage is more than five times what had been allocated for them in 20 years — from 1960 to 1980. What we are allocating now is more than five times that. This is just to let you know the size of the work and the requirements and to let you knwo that if we are suffering, we must bear it and make progress as much as possible.

In the energy sphere, the plan aims at implementing new projects which will produce 3,400 megawatts of electricity. Of course, you are not electricians, but we understand what 3,400 means. It means that we shall generate energy within 5 years — within the 5-year plan — something which equals the amount we produced over half a century. Our plan for electricity production equals all that we have accomplished in half a century. Imagine this amount, and we must be aware of it — 3,900 [figure as heard] megawatts in the past 50 years.

Of course, as a result of development, the open-door policy, and the production open-door policy, the number of air conditioners, refrigerators, and other luxuries have increased. Everyone is benefiting. But this creates a big demand for energy. We shall generate 3,400 megawatts within 5 years. After these 5 years we have to embark on the utilization of nuclear energy; otherwise we shall use all of our for energy by the year 2000, and then we shall go bankrupt. For this reason we must progress together with the world. In the past 50 years we produced 3,900 megawatts.

See how much the difference is — of which 1,750 megawatts were produced by the High Dam?

Consequently, I regard this plan as an important event in our national march. I demand that it be respected and adhered to in all spheres. This is a responsibility which we all share, irrespective of our positions.

The public sector, which is the principal basis for development and progress — Are you happy? [laughter] I say it in every sentence — shoulders the greater part of the burden and responsibility. This is out of conviction. Therefore, it should be supported and strengthened to the maximum. It should be given all the resources it requires to get rid of the obstacles facing its growth — and we are moving in this direction. The system of production and distribution must be modernized either by getting new machinery or by introducing modern technological methods and raising administrative efficiency, because the public sector is our great national wealth and the shield for our economic independence and our free will.

During my visits to the public sector factories I have seen continuous development in equipment, resources, and the use of modern technology. But this will not be completed in 1 year. All of you in the factories know that the process requires time and money. We are going ahead. I think that industry in this year of the plan is being given a sum which it had not received in development plans in the past years.

On the other hand, the private sector has its legitimate role, which is indispensable and which it must perform without fear or hesitation. It must be clear that the illegal practices of a minority working in this field cannot reflect upon the thousands of honest citizens who are contributing with their money, efforts, ability, and initiative toward the development of their country and who are honestly and loyally performing their duties as sincere Egyptians. Consequently, the appropriate state departments should offer them all the facilities that will open the door to them for production and export and should remove all the obstacles in their way and promote their capability for competition and growth.

I would like to put some basic points in this connection before you so that there will be a clear vision of the broad lines of our policy and no scope for any confusion or misunderstanding:

1. There will be no return to the concepts of the closed-door policy. I emphasize this. There will be no restrictions on the citizens' freedom in practicing economic activity.

2. The regulation that the state resorts to at times in regard to some aspects of economic activity is not meant to restrict it or to narrow the scope before it; what is intended is completely the opposite. If it were not coupled with the necessary regulations, economy would have no chance of continuity and stability but would be liable to instability and setback. Egyptian businessmen should realize very well that their interest does not lie in making quick profits and in evading the burdens of industrialization and the farmers' worries. Their interest in the long term, at least, lies in the national economy being strong and firm. They are part of this economy and are affected by whatever harm or weakness befalls it. They cannot live and practice their activity outside its framework and regardless of whatever affects the economy.

3. The state encourages aspects of production activity more than trade activity — not to mention the billions — although it will not prevent the latter or view it with enmity. [sentence as heard] We encourage production activity considerably because it creates more jobs, products, and exports than trade activity. However, we are not against trade activity. On making your purchases you always hear rumors that the goods are offered to you for 20 piasters and you may be willing to buy them for 60 piasters for fear of not finding them later. One would buy things for 20 or 60 piasters or 1 pound for stockpiling. The state has made no prohibitions at all.

From time to time we give guidance in the interest of the plan and in the interest of the people's welfare, not for any other purpose. We encourage production. Production provides jobs, employment, and increases the country's production. It creates the country's prosperity. Trade activity also requires guidance at times. The state also helps in exports and endeavors to rationalize imports. Egyptian businessmen are asked to cooperate with the state in implementing this policy and its success.

To be clear, unless we all cooperate with one another, we will lose a great deal. We are passing through a phase in which we should be serious, aware, and understand our economic situation. What can we do? We must work. We've drawn up a plan. There have been many problems piling up for a long time. Never think that we can solve them in a day and night. Never. Even if you bring Samson, he will not be able to solve them in a day and night.

The bankers must not view with reservation the required role being played by the central bank. All the world is like this. We should not criticize the central bank. All the the world is like this. We do not want chaos. The central bank's required role is to supervise monetary and credit policy compatible with the plan. We want a plan and we want to proceed with it. We must adhere to the plan — a sound scientific plan that favors the people and favors this country, which was the richest country in the area but has become the poorest. We must arise and we must be serious; we must be determined and honest. There is no state in the East or the West that doesn't impose restraint on such matters directly connected with the infrastructre of the economic system.

Brother compatriots, foremost of the national objectives we are seeking to achieve is the deepening of democracy in Egypt, which is the bulwark of the national renaissance and the cornerstone of reconstruction and progress. It must be understood that democracy is not merely a slogan or nice word but is a program for thinking and a way of life. It is a comprehensive outlook for defining relations within a society and outlining general rights and duties.

Since its inception as an idea in ancient Greek philosophy, democracy is essentially the rule of the people by the people. Its exemplary model is for all the individuals of a society to determine their affairs directly without the presence of parliamentary representation or elected councils on the central and local levels. There is a country [Libya] which is doing this but it is chaos. They pass the decisions they want. We do not want to do such a thing.

In the past all the people met in one place to pass legislation nad resolutions. This used to take place in the old times when the people numbered 5,500. [as heard] The people were a people's council, a consultative council, everything.

It is natural that this primitive model of democracy can no longer be applied in the modern age with its complications and problems. It has become necessary to pursue one form or another of indirect democracy.

Since all states without exception embrace democracy and adhere to it as a philosophy and program, it is difficult to choose a certain model for applying democracy that will also allow measuring of how much a state adheres to or preserves it. However, there are several indications which can be taken as a guide for knowing how far this or that state is close to a democratic course. Most important of these indications are: the method of decisionmaking by the majority; the expansion of the masses' participation in determining general policy, making decisions, and directing the government in favor of the overwhelming majority of the people; the matter of giving the minority the chance to express its view and partake in drawing up policy; respect for freedoms and fundamental rights of individuals and groups, and equality before the law.

Within the framework of my concern to deepen the democratic course and consolidate its foundations in dear Egypt, we must all pledge to keep the democratic process away from shocks and repercussions caused by transgression, the arbitrary use of rights, the absence of equilibrium between rights and duties, and the failure to distinguish between what can be subject to a difference or multiplicity of opinion and what must be a subject of unanimity in view of its connection with the supreme strategic interests of the homeland.

Those who are misusing democracy and are trying to exploit it to achieve their personal ambitions at the expense of the interest of the whole are committing a grave mistake against this society and are inflicting the greatest harm to the cause of democracy, to which they give verbal support while their actions and behavior indicate the opposite.

I want to mention a phenomenon in this respect because it positively and negatively affects our democratic process. It is the phenomenon of the departure by the press of political parties from the objective behind free expression and their indulgence in shameful practices either by avoiding objectivity and the public interest or by using sensationalism or by harming the Egyptian people and their struggle and ideals. This remark does not come from me because I am in a position of power but is a true reflection of a popular view which I have encountered in several places which I have visited.

Therefore, it is incumbent on me to forward it to you so I can seek your views and consult you. I am determined not to jeopardize the democratic method. I am the most fervent believer in democracy and in its subjective and sound concept, which is far removed from whims and personal ends. Therefore, I have pledged to God and to the people that the country will never witness a regression from the democratic course.

I repeat — so you can hear — that I will never resort to the course of extraordinary measures. All I want to do is get the people's attention, enlighten them, and caution them. The reason is that the method of arousing people, lying and propagandizing for chaos in the name of democracy, definitely endangers the land of Egypt, which we redeem with our lives.

Perhaps those who are playing with fire cannot understand the extent of the mistake they are making and its evil consequences for this society, regardless of their party, ideological, or social affiliations. When danger occurs, it does not differentiate between one citizen and another.

At this point I have a few things to say. I have said that democracy is a means of entrenching freedom and achieving advancement.It is not a means for exaggeration and excitement. I have also said that in a democratic system decisionmaking differs from what it is in a totalitarian system.

I will say a third thing, and then I will continue talking to you. If freedom turns into chaos, it will cause evil for the society. [Words indistinct] and how many a crime is committed in your name, O freedom!

I know democracy as the rule of the people for the people and for the benefit of the people — not for the benefit of anyone else. I believe that this concept is clear to all of us, or do you differ over it — the rule of the people for the people, I mean the Egyptian people? We are all Egyptians. This is our country. It is not the country of only one person, or the country of this or that person. No, it is the country of all of us. Well, we have a plurality of views — and I support the multiplicity of views. I am very patient when it comes to incitement as occurred previously in the era of President Anwar as-Sadat. Very many people ask me: What then? Never mind. Just let us understand this matter. It is a serious one and we must understand it rationally, and we should not rush while doing things.

In all countries of the world, parties compete to serve the people, to rectify errors, and to make proposals in a manner beneficial for the people. For instance, a government hammers out a 5-year plan, and then a party comes and tells the government: No, take care. In this or that project, this work is wrong. As a party, we believe that the method of work should consist of points one, two, three, and four. This way is better and is beneficial for the people. Therefore, the whole competition and the whole quarrel is beneficial for the people, not for the sake of the seats in which we sit. These seats will be broken and we are all mortals, but the public's interest is immortal. [applause]

I will not talk much about this subject. However, I am going to pose a question to you. In general the party newspapers appeared in June last year. They have been publishing for almost a year. I challenge anyone to produce for me party papers from all over the world in which things are written as they are written in the newspapers of our parties. I challenge anyone to show if there is more abusive language, degeneration, or corruption — as if there is nothing other than these things in this country. Nobody has made a proposal or extended counsel to the government. The government is not made of gods. This is a plan [di khittah].

When I was in the United States, the U.S. President was discussing a thing — an economic plan. We want freedom like that in the United States and we want things similar to those in England. We only choose the things that please us in these countries, but we do not even ask about the other things. I found all the newspapers and the radio and television stations discussing the plan and telling him: No, you are mistaken about this and you must do that.

We prepared a 5-year plan, but it was as if there never was a plan or a country. [People say:] We have other goals. I say: Shame. I say: You are committing a sin. Heed your conscience. There is a people, there is a people. Chairs will not produce advancement for the people — not at all. If I cannot work from my position, I will leave it and let another person take it over to achieve progress for the people. I am ready to do this. But how long will this state of affairs continue? [applause and cheers]

I am telling you facts. I am telling you things without anger. But why should we distort our renown, why should we publish dirty things in our newspapers? Why? What has happened? Has Egypt changed? I say and say again: Here is advice for the sake of God and the homeland. I am talking as a loyal Egyptian man who loves his country and who sacrifices for the sake of his country — not for a personal end. I say that if we continue with this method without heeding the general interest of the people — not in the interest of increasing the sale of newspapers and making profit — democracy will be completely destroyed. I have told you this thing. [applause]

Cherished brothers and sisters, my concern is for alleviating suffering [applause] all of it, all of it, I will say it all. If I say it now, you will fall asleep.[laughter] Never, I will say it now. [words indistinct] Brothers and sisters, I stated before that Egypt embraces 45 million nationals. I maintain this view. I still reiterate on every occasion that Egyptianism is nationalism. I will not allow myself to accuse an Egyptian of betraying this holy soil. [cheers of "God is great, long live Egypt"]

I forgot to talk about the totalitarian and the democratic systems. I advocate democracy. In a democratic system there are people who say that the government has done nothing following the reports carried in the press. No. We have chosen for our country democracy and the rule of the law. It is the law that works. An action by the head of state or by the government will be an extraordinary measure. An extraordinary measure, brothers, can only work under a totalitarian regime.

I will cite a simple example so that we can know the difference between the two. Some people occupy a building. The son of one of you refuses to talk to the son of one of those who is responsible. The latter son then retaliates and says that the former insulted the regime, the head of state, and the state. Consequently, your son is arrested and sent to prison while you are sitting, not knowing your right from your left and lamenting your luck. There is no justice. This could happen to any of us. I would not join a totalitarian regime, but as a citizen this could happen to me. If it happened to me, what can I do? My son is sent to detention without knowing the reasons. What was said about him will be believed.

However, in a democracy and under the rule of law, despite the difficulties it entails, this most difficult course we have chosen is the most secure and most just course. Therefore, we must support democracy with all our power. Even if we are tired at present, in the long run we will live a dignified, secure, and stable life. [applause]

Our people are very emotional. This makes one think well before making a decision. We will think, turn things over until we make a decision, and ask ourselves about the consequences. For example the case before the Court of Ethics. There were some exceptions. Some asked what was his crime. [Others said] it was the minister who did so and so and should be held. We let one free and held another.

We said, by God, at the official level our brother ministers had tendered their resignation and left. It was then said that this action was not right and people asked what they had done, what was their crime? Were we going to open or close the door? [laughter] Tell us. Therefore, I would not like to follow emotional decisions. Someone would say: Let us change things. Everyone desiring a change wants to change a specific person, to replace him or to remove him. no. A change must have a philosophy. We must change what is in our hearts first. If we were to make changes, half of us must change, half of us. [applause] What about those who worked with 'Abd an-Nasir and those who worked with every ruler? Should we say that they should leave. They had worked with him and with those before him and received their salaries from those before them. Some have worked since the times of the king. Are we to remove them and replace them with others? People would then say that those who were there before were better. God. They wished they were still in their position.[as heard] This is just a view. This is why I make no emotional or rash decisions. You must understand our philosophy for making a decision. I never make a decision at random. Moreover, our circumstances require an affirmation of stability for investments.

It's easy to make daily changes, decisions changing a government and other things. No one will accept this. You will be the first to criticize me if I did so. Voices will be raised. No, No. I am against emotional things. I do whatever my coinscience dictates and I do whatever I find that is good for the people and for the homeland's progress, not for any other things. [applause] No. [Mubarak responds to indistinct comment from the audience] [laughter] I will leave that to the end. [laughter]

Brothers and sisters, I do not bestow the right of nationality on anyone. Nationality is at the same time a right and a duty for every Egyptian. But the first Egyptian position for which the people have chosen me demands that I should draw attention to and even warn against the dangers of creating the corrupt atmospheres which have almost dominated the printed word of some newspapers to the point where this has become a noticeable phenomena, denounced by everyone who wants good for this faithful country. The renaissance of Egypt today is the hope of the millions and is the work of the millions. The renaissance of Egypt will never be achieved by tearing up all of its garments, smearing all of its honest people, or attacking sanctities that God wants us to safeguard.

There is a big difference between uncovering mistakes and shortcomings with a view to correcting them and giving guidance and throwing dirt at all the values and sanctities so that our feet will stumble in the mud. There is a big difference between speaking the truth in order to destroy all evil in our behavior and turning every truth in this country into hated evil. There is a big difference between criticism for the good of God and Egypt and defamation, discredit, and scorn in order to smear all the faces of Egypt. There is a big difference between pursuing any corruption under the supremacy of the law and the judgment of courts and for the press to contain terrorization and threats to all the successful and honest people merely because they are sweating, making money, and giving the state its due. It is as if the purpose is to spread fear and terror. Why? Why spread terror and fear? Why publish a notice in this or that newspaper and say you have taken this land, and then make a problem for someone which might not be correct? Why? This is not right. This is not right for Egypt or for any citizen. Just because they sweat, make money, and give the state its due, as if the purpose is to spread fear and terror, fan hatred between the classes, and attack anyone who wants to work for his country with honesty and honor.

The word is a trust, and it is not to be used to make accusations against the honest by betraying the trust. The word is for the sake of Egypt and not a poisonous weapon to stab the body of Egypt. If Egypt were the country which we read about in these newspapers, we would all be strangers in its land.

The matter is not limited to defamation, discrediting, and casting doubts about the basis of this society, the future of its members, its plans of action, and the soundness of its policy. There are some who are trying to strip the heroes and martyrs of Egypt of the greatest honor, which is the immortal October victory. [applause]

I will not mention names here. I will give you examples, and I will leave it to the people, through you, to judge. Perhaps you read in the news today and you have been reading for some days: Applause for As-Sadat; after he died, cursed be his father [words indistinct]; Husni Mubarak, may you be blessed and you are a blessing [words indistinct]. You will not find a ruler until an ugly and criminal ruler comes, so he will know how to deal with you. Is this reasonable? Is this our people? It is impossible, of course. This is not the character of our people. [Someone in audience says something indistinct] Yes, we know. For this reason, I tell you so that you will know what is going on.

One day one of these people went to meet with a head of an Arab state with which we have no dealings. Fate and circumstances willed it that the head of this state secretly sent word to me that this fellow had gone to him and that he dealt with this and that person. I knew the person who went to meet with him [words indsitnct] just to receive $5,000. To hell with that. All this does not last. What lasts is a good name.

What happened then? This person — without mentioning names — returned from our brother, our friend, and wanted to see me. My answer to him was no. I told them [apparently those who came to request a meeting betwen unidentified person and Mubarak] to tell him: I know that he met with this person, and this person told him and told me everything, and I thank him. He said: This is not true. I did not go to him, I did not meet with him; all this is nonsense. I asked again. They said that he used to go to him and meet with him. I refused to see him.

I normally receive people, even from the opposition. I receive them. I hold contacts with our brothers in the opposition. We are not enemies. We talk, discuss, and debate. But I tell you that this matter is outside the parties and has nothing to do with the parties.

It took him a month before he told my secretary: Explain to the president, there is nothing at all.

Well, sir, tell him that I have been informed. I do not want to see him. But he was determined. When he found out that it was useless, he came to my office. He came to my secretary and told him: By God, never mind. I have told a lie. He wrote me a letter that said: I told a lie, and these are the reasons for it.

Well, consider any country, any country in the world — from one end to the other. A person goes and meets the head of a state with which we do not have any relations. He even goes there secretly. But there are party members who deal with me — and they all have my appreciation — in the following way: Some party leaders, when invited to go somewhere, they contact me and tell me: I am required to do so and so, what is your opinion? He must know what his country's policy is. As parties, we quarrel for the people's benefit. This behavior is acceptable inside the country. But when we go abroad, we must be united for the sake of our country's future. By God, look at anyone when he is asked about his country abroad. Well, point out any person — Arab or non-Arab — who mentions his country abroad. Mention only one Arab who writes against his country abroad. Well, look at us! Series are written. We accept payments. We curse our country and we accept payments for the series.

There are even responsible people who are writing and who are distorting the image of the revolution abroad. One says he was a member and another says he was not a member. Everyone says something. By God, what is this? This is ugly. O people, what has happened to us? What has happened to our values, principles, and ethics? Would I do such things just to receive $5,000 or $20,000 or $30,000? All our brothers in the Arab states are watching us.

You have seen how some Arab states have responded and have refused to publish some series. I refused to meet this person, he left, and so on. You have seen what happens. There are people, for instance, in the Higher Press Council, who say: I do not know with whom the president has met and so on. Rumors then spread.

I have the right to meet with any citizen. There is nothing wrong with it. Perhaps he will curse, but I will meet with him. Come, we will talk and reach an understanding. There is nothing wrong with this. He is an Egyptian, and I must meet with him. However, if he mixes things up on the grounds that he had met with me, this is another question. Everyone publishes an article. People come to me — they are not party members, and I do not want to be unjust to anyone — and they tell me: Mr President, you must take action. But which actions shall I take? No, take action, you must take action. This is impossible, there is the law. We want

to get accustomed to the supremacy of the law. We want to get accustomed to a sound democratic system. An uproar is raised. They ask me: Mr President, what will you do about these people who publish abroad? Everyone comes and asks: What will you do to him, Mr President? By God, will the president stop him? This is unreasonable!

These people exist. We must stop expecting the head of state to take action whenever something goes wrong. You tell people: Well, you must answer the writer, let whoever has something in hand answer the writer. They write an article, or they write something here in our newspapers. What do they say? They say: The president has given the green light. Everything involves the president. I do not give a green light, nor a red light. Well, you jump the red light while driving. [laughter] Whoever wants to write waits for me — I give neither a green nor a red light! However, I say: This is disgraceful. We have values, traditions, and ethics to which we must adhere — and there is a minimum limit to this adherence. It is not appropriate to do such things. I sincerely tell you. I know all the strings — more than any one of you. Therefore, I warn and caution: Have mercy on your country.

Let the party newspapers have mercy on their country. If in every party there are one or two people who control the newspaper and act this way, then the parties must take action. Every party must be aware of the conditions in its country, because every party head is — above all other considerations — an Egyptian and his country comes before all else.

The matter was not confined to distortion, defamation, and casting doubt on the prerequisites of this society, its able men, its plans of action, and its sound policy. There are those who are trying to divest Egypt's heroes and martyrs of the greatest honor. They are now denying this, saying: No, we didn't say this. It is published in the newspapers. Everything has been published. [They say] we were acting. They say we were enemies ['ada'] of Israel before the war and we made a play with it. Very strange. Let us make another play with it and solve the problem, if these plays are easy.

Yes, there are those who have written in Arab newspapers, and regrettably have received money. Money blinds us of values, traditions, and ethics. If we do not look at ourselves, we must look at our generations, our sons, and our youths whom we are leaving not knowing where right and wrong are. This is not correct.

Yes, there are those who have unashamedly written in Arab newspapers that the October epic was an imaginary battle. Very strange. We lost martyrs and spent millions of pounds to wage an imaginary battle.

I don't know. I was a commander of a force in the October War. I can't believe it was an imaginary war. I sent pilots to die and fight and soldiers to commit suicide, and they say it was an imaginary battle. It could not have been an imaginary battle considering that we lost the blood of our sons, brothers, and relatives. This is illogical talk.

I ask, and it is the right of all of you to ask me, in whose interest a writer who belongs to Egypt commits this big sin? Is this study and analysis? Is this thought from people of thought? Is this gratitude from an Egyptian writer to Egypt's Army, which achieved the greatest pride in modern history for Egypt and the whole Arab nation? [applause]

Allow me to announce to the people that these are grave omens. Transgressions have encouraged some persons to attack their country abroad. These persons have bypassed the limits of disregard for the responsibility of freedom and have stooped very low in their disregard of all ideals and values.

A strange phenomenon is appearing. Several Arab newspapers are currently allocating several columns to writers who are stabbing and slandering Egypt's leader and who are giving the ugliest picture of everything taking place in Egypt.

I will be clear. I have had some contacts — I say this for the first time — with our brothers in the Arab states about this matter. Almost all of them have responded favorably. [applause] Anything published containing attacks on the dignity of any Egyptian is against our orthodox religion. We must adhere to our principles. We are all Arabs. What is painful and regrettable is that these writers are Egyptians. There is no non-Egyptian in the world who writes against his country. Show me a magazine in which an Arab curses his country. I challenge you. However, we have many because we are 45 million and some must come up.

We cannot find an Arab writer belonging to any Arab state — we are Egyptians, we have our traditions, we have our ethics, and we have old values — who attacks his country's reputation and dignity like Egyptian writers who attack Egypt's reputation and dignity. [They say] there is corruption in Egypt, there is only chaos in Egypt, there is only despair in Egypt, and there is injustice only in Egypt. Do you believe this?

Brothers and sisters, I again say that these are serious signs demanding that we take a serious stand on them. I have asked such writers more than once to express their opinions and to participate in studies that will be productive and will add and rectify and that will propose something new from which the ruler and the ruled will benefit. The ruler is the servant of Egypt, and the governed are the servants of Egypt, but Egypt is above all. [applause]

However, I see now that my repeated call has not met with the due understanding of those who imagine that the opposition press must be leflets for incitement, attack, and distortion and for implanting despair in the people's hearts. Therefore, I once again drawn attention and warn: We are all facing serious, huge, and important responsibilities. There is no room for relaxation or tampering, and there is no room for exploiting the economic difficulties which the whole world is suffering from and which is threatening the big industrial states.

Meat prices have been increased, some of our brothers write in party newspapers. Well, let us hear your suggestions. God, is the government a state of angels? If you have a proposal, let us hear it. We are all working in the interest of the people. Well, make it easier for us and give us new ideas. We and the government are working. Help the government. God, is the government alone working for the people's interest and are the others idle? Never. We are all supposed to cooperate in this field in the people's

interest and in the interest of the toiling groups of the people. There is no room for exploiting the economic difficulties from which the world is suffering. The economic difficulties will remain for a long time while we implement our plan and achieve progress. These difficulties are threatening the big industrial states. You can see what is now happening to the great powers. Not in Egypt, thank God, thank God.

There is room in the arena for every idea and thought. However, the national consicence persistently rejects that opinions be turned into incitement and that the word be turned into terrorist ideas seeking to destroy in the name of democracy all the legacy of achievements and work.

We will not cover up any mistake; we will not protect any exploitation or negligence. One speaks of excellence and delivers a lecture in a university saying excellence is a play through which they laugh at you. [Words indistinct from the audience] Yes, it is said that excellence does not exist. Is it excellent to insult Egypt?

It is strage to say that excellence does not exist. What have you to tell us then? I do not know whether he who writes these things does so while awake, or I do not know what. In fact, it is not reasonable. He must have just woken up.

We will not cover up mistakes. We will not protect any exploitation or negligence. However, those who ignore right and truth must realize that the people are primarily responsible for protecting their march — the march of work and sweat, the march of good example, the march of purity, the march of challenging all the obstacles facing us. This is the true march for freedom leading us to a bright and hopeful future.

I can declare with all conviction that the people denounce such an irresponsible practice — the practice of incrimination and slander. There are problems; yes, there are problems. There are economic difficulties; yes, there are economic difficulties. There are shortcomings in services; yes, there are shortcomings. Can we conceal these from the people? There are shortcomings, but we are working. There is need for further work in all sectors. Yes, there is need for confrontation and challenge. Let the honest people compete with ideas and work. Let these local figures whose heads revolve in circles of destruction, casting doubts and slander, know that there are limits and duties. If the obvious objective is to push the ruler to adopt measures he would not like to adopt but is convinced of their necessity, I will again with all calmness and patience and without anger draw attention and warn.

I draw the attention of the ignorant that we are not stupid. I warn the adventurers that the [domestic] arena will not accommodate such adolescent immaturity.

I also address myself to our political parties with all loylaty to the homeland and faith in the obligations the homeland places on us all to cast an examining, objective look at the outcome of their work the last few years. Have they contributed to focusing light on the issues that affect the interests of the masses? Have they shared in giving opinions and advice in tackling the economic problems facing the country? I do not mean to blame everyone in our parties, since there are honorable, honest, and capable people. But there is a small number, as in any other society, which control rumors. I urge them to follow their conscience and follow the interests of the country.

Have they played their role in enlightening the citizens about the social problems and about the way of tackling them to strengthen the social structure of immortal Egypt? Have they proved to the outside world the cohesion of the Egyptian front and the solidarity of the Egyptian people in the face of national issues that can never be the subject of disagreement or outbidding? Some of them go out and meet officials in states with which we have no relations, and they level the worst abuse against Egypt. They do this without informing Egypt.

Let us see what happens in the United States. A former secretary of state before he comes to Egypt goes to the U.S. Administration and tells it: I am going to Egypt, to Sudan, and to Saudi Arabia. Are there any specific instructions? He does this because he has an affiliation with his country. The administration tells him: No, or there is this and that, or be careful about this issue, because our policy is so and so. He will discuss this with the administation, and then he leaves for these countries. If an outcome is achieved in these meetings, it is achieved in the course of a friendly visit. But this person asks questions for the benefit of the administration and his country.

We do not have the same practice here. We should learn. One must learn until he dies — that is, if we want to learn.

Have they proved to the outside world the cohesion of the Egyptian society and the soldiarity of the Egyptian people in the face of national issues that can never be the subject of disagreement or outbiddings? Have they, by their actions, deepened the faith of the masses in democracy and strengthened their confidence in the method of dialogue and the interaction of opinions? Tomorrow, our newspapers will come out with great headlines. They are writing now.

The development of demcoracy into wider horizons will be possible only through work and through good will, and not evil intentions, through sweat and not by undermining the efforts of the workers, through unity and not division, through the word of truth and not evil maneuvers, and through the call for love and not the stabs of hatred. This is the real change we are seeking with a sincere conscience and hones. intentions.

Dear brothers and sisters, it is my wish to ease the suffering of the toiling factions of our struggling people. You are aware of the economic problems surrounding us. You are fully aware that we have begun a 5-year plan to which we adhere. However, I want to say frankly that I actually feel the suffering of some of our brothers in this country who are finding it difficult to find food, clothing, and housing. We are making the utmost efforts in this field. However, I hope you will understand that this cannot happen overnight.

We are working to increase production. We are working to develop industry and agriculture and all other fields. You are also aware that although we have begun a 5-year plan, oil prices fell this year, reducing our earnings by $245 million in 6 months. In

other words, our earnings will be reduced by about $500 million next year. Despite all these difficulties, we adhere to implementing the plan because it is the hope of Egypt.

Despite these problems and torubles, I have asked the prime minister and the government that in the next budget they should look into and study any possible allowance ['alawah] for the workers in the government and the public sector in a way that will not increase inflation and prices. God willing, this will be provided for in the new budget. We hope they will arrive at a reasonable sum. We are afraid of a big sum because it will increase consumption and raise prices and then you will wish that we had not given you this allowance. This is what is happening.

However, on the occasion of Labor Day in May, I have asked the government, which has discussed the matter and decided on it, to give you a reward of a half-month salary this year. Many happy returns of the day. May God grant you success. [applause]

Military Communiques Report Iranian Battle Losses

Communique No 1,076

JN291552 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Apr (INA) — The Iraqi Armed Forces have inflicted more human and material losses on the Iranian forces. The known losses amounted to six killed and two guns, one hardware stockpile, one observation post, and two infantry positions destroyed.

Communique No 1,076, issued by the Armed Forces General Command here this evening, said that the mean Khomeyniite clique today shelled Basra, Mandali, and Khanaqin, causing damage to some civilian establishments. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,076 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave armed forces are continuing their activities in the operational sectors against the forces of evil and aggression so Iraq will remain strong and its banner high. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units sighted and pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Maysan operational sector, killing four and destroying two guns and one hardware stockpile.

2. Two were killed and one observation post destroyed in the central sector of the battlefield.

3. Two infantry positions were destroyed and their occupants killed east of Basra.

4. Today the mean Khomeyniite clique shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, and their outskirts, causing damage to some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 29 April 1983

Communique No 1,077

JN301602 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1535 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Apr (INA) — An Iraqi military communique said tonight that nine Iranian soldiers were killed, others wounded, and two vehicles, one loaded with hardware, three infantry positions, and two hardware stockpiles were destroyed. Communique No 1,077 issued by the Armed Forces General Command added that Iraqi combat units carried out several operations against the enemy over the past 24 hours. The communique noted that the enemy shelled Mandali and its environs as well as Zurbatiyah and Qurahtu Su, damaging one house and wounding one civilian. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,077 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The defenders of the homeland and its impregnable shield continue their valiant activities against the racist Iranian regime. The following are the results for last night and today:

1. One of our forward units pounded an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the central sector, killing nine, wounding a number of others, and destroying one infantry position.

2. One vehicle and two infantry positions were destroyed in the area east of Basra.

3. One vehicle, loaded with hardware, and two hardware stockpileswere destroyed in the Maysan operational sector.

4. The vile Khomeniite clique today intermittently shelled Mandali and its environs, as well as Zurbatiyah and Qurahtu Su, damaging one house and wounding one civilian.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 30 Apr 1983

Communique No 1,078

JN011559 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1525 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Baghdad [no date as received] (INA) — the Iraqi forces have killed six Iranians, wounded others, and destroyed four vehicles, one personnel shelter, one heavy mortar, one hardware stockpile, and two observation posts. This was stated by Iraqi Communique No 1,078, issued here this evening on the last 24-hour military activities carried out in the operational sectors. The communique added that the Iranian enemy shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, and their outskirts, damaging some civilian establishments. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,078 issued by the Armed Forces General Command. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our valiant armed forces, while congratulating our struggling working class on its glorious day, reaffirm their absolute ability to confront our greedy suspect enemies and protect great Iraq and its revolutionary and cultural structure. The results of the activities carried out yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. Our forward units sighted and pounded enemy troops opposite our positions in the central sector of the battlefield, killing five, and destroying two vehicles, one infantry position [as received; not listed in introductory passage], and one personnel shelter with its occupants.

2. One of our forward units opened fire on an enemy concentration opposite our positions in the Maysan operational sector, killing one, wounding others, and destroying two vehicles, one heavy mortar, one hardware stockpile, and two observation posts.

Our patrols found a quantity of medium and light weapons and various equipment which the enemy abandoned in the successful At-Tib and Faqih battles.

3. Today the spiteful Iranian regime shelled Basra, Mandali, Khanaqin, Zurbatiyah, and their outskirts, damaging some civilian establishments.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 1 May 1983

Communique No 1,079

JN021600 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 May (INA) — During the last 24 hours, the Iraqi forces killed one Iranian, wounded others, and destroyed three vehicles, two infantry positions, one hardware stockpile, and three observation posts. Iraqi military Communique No 1,079, issued here tonight, added that the Iranians shelled Mandali and Zurbatiyah with artillery, causing damage to civilian installations. The following is the text of the communique:

Communique No 1,079 issued by the Armed Forces General Command: In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Our brave army units continued their valiant activities in the operational sectors against the forces of the tyrannical Iranian regime. The results for yesterday evening and today are as follows:

1. One of our forward units sighted and pounded an enemy concentration in the central sector of the battlefield, killing one, wounding others, and destroying one vehicle, two infantry positions, and one hardware stockpile.

2. Two vehicles, one of which was loaded with personnel, and two observation posts were destroyed east of Basra.

3. One observation post was destroyed in the Maysan sector.

4. Today, the vicious enemy shelled Mandali and its outskirts, as well as Zurbatiyah, with artillery, causing damage to civilian installations.

[Signed] The Armed Forces General Command, 2 May 1983

Iraq To Shell Civilian Iranian Installations

JN021930 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1910 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 May (INA) — Iraq has again warned Iran against shelling the civilian Iraqi towns and installations.

In a statement to INA, Culture and Information Minister Latif Nusayyif Jasim held the Iranian regime responsible for the results of its continual shelling of Iraqi civilian towns and installations. He emphasized that this time the lesson will be hard.

The minister added: We will return fire with all means and weapons available deep inside Iran, and the illiterate Iranian regime will be held responsible before world public opinion for the results of its reckless, irresponsible behavior.

He indicated that for a long time Iraq has avoided shelling the Iranian towns and vital installations, while the suspect, illiterate Iranian regime continued its shelling of the Iraqi towns and civilian installations, disregarding repeated warnings and exposing the civilian safety to harm and danger.

Earlier today, an official Iraqi spokesman warned the Iranian forces against continuing their shelling of civilian Iraqi areas with artillery, adding that Iraq's patience has limits.

Today's Iraqi military communique said that the town of Mandali, 110 km east of Baghdad, and its outskirts, as well as the border town of Zurbatiyah, were exposed to Iranian artillery shelling which damaged civilian installations.

Spokesman Dismisses Reports on Abadan Shelling

JN021057 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1040 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 2 May (INA) — Iraq has unequivocally dismissed Iranian claims that the Iraqi forces had bombarded Abadan, describing as mere lies all the Iranian communiques in this regard. Iraq affirmed that the Iranian rulers are resorting to these lies to cover up for their crimes against Iraq and the Iranian people.

An Iraqi military spokesman, in a statement commenting on the Iranian lies, strongly warned the Iranian regime against the consequences of shelling Iraqi towns and civilian establishments with long-range artillery. He explained that the Iranian enemy is fully aware what will happen once Iraqi patience is exhausted.

The spokesman affirmed that Iraq had never made decisions in the dark. Iraq announces its decisions with courage and determination, especially when they are connected with the defense of our people and land. The spokesman added: Since the withdrawal of Iraqi troops from Iranian territories, and until now, the Iranian enemy has persistently been reporting in its communiques that Abadan is shelled daily, in an attempt to justify its shelling of Iraqi cities, villages, and civlian installations. Furthermore, the spokesman said, the Iranian enemy's military communiques and stands have always been replete with charlatanism and lies.

The spokesman said: For the sake of presenting facts to the world, and in particular to the Iranian people, who have been persecuted by this bloodthirsty clique, we, out of our moral and humanitarian responsibility, categorically deny the shelling of Abadan.

Continuing his statement, the spokesman said that the whole world has confidence in the Iraqi Armed Forces' communiques and at the same time, views with suspicion the Iranian communiques, which lack facts and contain contradictory information.

In conclusion, the spokesman said: There is a limit to our patience and the Iranian enemy knows better than anyone what will happen once our patience is exhausted. He who forewarns is excused.

Italian Foreign Minister Arrives for Talks 29 Apr

JN291816 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1740 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Apr (INA) — Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo arrived here this evening at the head of a delegation on a visit of several days to Iraq.

Upon his arrival, the Italian foreign minister told INA that the European states hope for an end to the Iraq-Iran war as soon as possible and for a settlement of the two countries' conflict through negotiations.

Colombo said he will discuss important topics with Iraqi officials, mainly the Iraq-Iran war and the Arab-Zionist conflict, in addition to issues related to cooperation between the two friendly countries.

The minister expressed his pleasure at visiting Iraq, stressing that this visit acquires a special importance in view of the strong relations and close cooperation between Iraq and Italy, and of Iraq's strategic importance for the region and for balance in the Middle East and the Arab region.

A delegation of senior Italian Foreign Ministry officials and a news team representing the Italian television channels and press are accompanying Colombo. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, some Foreign Ministry officials and the Italian ambassador in Baghdad welcomed the minister.

Meets With Ramadan

JN301330 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1245 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Baghdad, 30 Apr (INA) — Taha Yasin Ramadan, first deputy prime minister, has expressed confidence in the future of Iraqi-Italian relations. He said that bilateral relations will greatly develop in the service of the two countries' joint interests.

During his meeting here today with Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo, Taha Yasin Ramadan expressed Iraq's satisfaction with the good and advanced relations with Italy, and praised the role of the Italian firms that are implementing Iraqi development projects.

The Italian minister expressed his country's satisfaction with the advanced relations with Iraq. He said that Italy seeks to expand its cooperation program with Iraq and to promote it in all fields.

Reviewing the war that has been imposed on Iraq by the Tehran rulers, Taha Yasin Ramadan said that the big conspiracies, which the Iranian regime is carrying out through its continued aggressions against Iraq, have been buried. He also stressed the determination of the Iraqi command and people to pursue development and progress.

The Italian minister expressed confidence that Iraq, which seeks to achieve progress and development, is interested in halting the war and achieving peace between it and Iran. He also reiterated his country's desire and readiness to contribute to the Iraqi development projects.

Earlier, the Italian minister and the accompanying delegation met with Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz. The two sides affirmed, in a friendly and practical meeting, their common desire to continue to promote friendship and cooperation commensurate with the legitimate interests of the Iraqi and Italian peoples, and in harmony with the desire of the Iraqi and Italian political leaderships to promote and develop stability and cooperation between the region and Western Europe.

The Iraq-Iran conflict was also discussed. The deputy prime minister and foreign minister explained to the Italian minister Iraq's position and the threat of the Iranian regime's aggression, not only to Iraq, but also to the region, and to the factors of peace and stability in it, and its negative effects on the world. The discussions also dealt with the situation in the Arab region and the latest political developments.

Meets With Saddam Husayn

JN011000 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0857 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Baghdad, 1 May (INA) — President Saddam Husayn today received Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo, who is currently visiting Iraq.

They discussed relations between the two friendly countries, the situation in the Arab region, the current political developments, the Iraq-Iran war, and the dangers its continuation poses to the security and stability in the region, Western Europe, and the world.

The Italian official stressed to President Saddam Husayn that Italy is concerned with the continuation and promotion of cooperation between the two countries on the basis of the principles of national independence, the joint interests of the Iraqi and Italian peoples, and the mutual interests between the Arab world and Europe.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Khalid 'Abd al-Mun'im, director of the presidential office, and the Italian ambassador in Baghdad.

Colombo Departs 1 May

JN012028 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo left Baghdad today at the end of a visit to Iraq. Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; 'Abd al-Malik Yasin, Foreign Ministry under secretary; and the Italian ambassador in Baghdad saw him off at the airport.

PLO Envoy Arrives With 'Arafat Message to Husayn

JN030755 Amman AD-DUSTUR on Arabic 3 May 83 pp 1, 27

[Text] Amman — Hani al-Hasan, political adviser to PLO Executive Committee Chairman Yasir 'Arafat, arrived in Amman the day before yesterday with a written message to His Majesty King Husayn from 'Arafat.

Informed Palestinian circles in Amman have said that the message contains a Palestinian conceptualization of future Jordanian-Palestinian relations, and on the type of joint move they should make in the current phase.

The circles described Hani al-Hasan's visit to Amman as extremely important,particularly since it comes after the series of meetings the PLO leadership has had in Kuwait and Tunis, and after the many Jordanian-Palestinian contacts via Arab channels, foremost being Moroccan King Hasan II's role in bringing the views of Jordan and those of the PLO closer together.

The circles implied that the recent U.S. move in the Middle East and the presence of Secretary of State George Shultz in the region would greatly affect Jordanian-Palestinian contacts, especially if Shultz achieves success in the [Lebanese-Israeli-U.S.] negotiations and thus proves the U.S. credibility asked for by Jordan, as all this would bring about an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon.

Husayn's Position Commended

JN030835 Amman SAWT ASH-SHA'B in Arabic 3 May 83 p 1

[Excerpt] Amman — In a statement at the PLO office in Amman, Hani al-Hasan said that the Palestinian leadership harbors great respect for the Jordanian Government's position, and for His Majesty King Husayn's statements on Jordan's frank and unwavering stand rejecting any formula that ignores the PLO as the sole representative of the Palestinian people.

In another development, Brigadier General 'Abd ar-Razzaq al-Yahya, the PLO Executive Committee representative in Amman, has left Amman for Damascus for consultations with the Palestinian leadership.

AR-RA'Y Comments on Shultz' Peace Efforts

JN030852 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 0500 GMT 3 May 83

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Between Efforts and Credibility," the newspaper AR-RA'Y says: Despite the fact that the final outcome of George Shultz' mission cannot at present be predicted, in the time which has elapsed since the U.S. secretary of state's arrival in the region there has not yet been any sign of paving the way for securing a withdrawal from Lebanon. Shultz told reporters 3 or 4 days ago that he had achieved slight progress in the talks. Since then, he has not spoken about progress. Instead, he spoke about the good atmosphere prevailing at the talks.

Lawrence Eagleberger, assistant secretary of state for foreign affairs, stated in Washington that the U.S. secretary of state might not at present be able to achieve an agreement between Lebanon and Israel. Eagleberger did not forget to stress U.S. commitment to continue its efforts and role in the region. Thus, the first week of Shultz' visit to the region has elapsed without showing the required proof of U.S. credibility. Moreover, what has been said by the U.S. assistant secretary of state raises the question of whether his statement aims to demonstrate that U.S. efforts in the region will take a long time if Shultz fails to achieve an agreement between Lebanon and Israel.

AR-RA'Y adds: Needless to say, the U.S. Administration itself has stressed the importance of the time factor in the region. Time is being spent in vain in Lebanon and the occupied Palestinian land, while the aggressive Israeli practices continue and escalate day by day. Naturally, the U.S. Administration cannot ignore Israel's tendency to waste time irrespective of Shultz' presence in the region. Moreover, there are more fears now that Israel is planning to exploit the U.S. secretary of state's mission to waste time.

AR-RA'Y concludes: Eagleberger's stressing of continued U.S. efforts in the region cannot dispense with the need for proving U.S. credibility. Efforts are no proof of credibility. The results, which are represented by Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon and the freeze of Israeli settlement practices in the Palestinian land, are the only required credibility. Efforts are means and results are the fruits, and how different they are.

Reportage on Minister Salim's Damascus Talks

Salim Says Talks 'Useful'

NC021810 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Jean 'Ubayd, and Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan visited Damascus today and met with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad for 3 hours. During the talks the Lebanese stance on the negotiations as well as the possible Syrian stances for facilitating the withdrawals from Lebanon were reviewed.

Shultz' visit to Syria will be decided upon in light of the Lebanese delegation's talks in Damascus. He is expected to visit Damascus this week, perhaps on Friday.

According to a Damascus radio report this afternoon, President al-Asad informed President Al-Jumayyil's envoys of Syria's support of Lebanon and its resistance to any gains that Israel might try to realize that would affect Lebanon's security and independence as well as Syria's security.

The Lebanese delegation returned to Beirut this afternoon to brief President al-Jumayyil on the results of its meetings with President al-Asad. Minister Salim described the Damascus talks as useful.

More on Salim's Visit

NC021814 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpt] What Foreign Minister Salim returned from Damascus with today and what Secretary of State Shultz will carry from Tel Aviv tomorrow morning will be the subjects of discussion and assessment at the Republican Palace in B'abda tomorrow. Perhaps during this meeting the black hairs will be separated from the white ones.

What happened in Damascus? In brief, President al-Asad has said that if Israel achieves any gain in Lebanon, the Syrian forces will stay there. Foreign Minister Salim, in brief, has said: We will not sign any agreement through which Israel can gain. We are an occupied country and Syria must help us through its understanding of our circumstances and stand.

Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan Briefed

NC021912 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] President of the Republic Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil tonight received Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, who briefed him on the results of his talks in Damascus with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan received a telephone call from Minister Salim for the same purpose.

Further Report on Talks

NC022242 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2200 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] His Excellency President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil was briefed last night [Monday] by Foreign Minister Elie Salim on the results of his talks with Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, in the presence of Dr Wadi' Haddad, Ghassan Tuwayni, Jean 'Ubayd, and Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan.

Minister Salim made a detailed review for President al-Asad of the basic points in the draft agreement with Israel. The Syrian president showed deep interest in the issue of security arrangements, particularly from the military and technical points of view. In addition, Minister Salim expounded on the pending points in the draft agreement and the points on which some progress has been made which go beyond the armistice agreement but in a limited way, because Lebanon is negotiating with Israel for an agreement on the withdrawal of the foreign forces from its territory and not a military agreement.

President al-Asad expressed appreciation of the Lebanese initiative and his support and backing of Lebanese President al-Jumayyil. He spoke about the positive aspects of the national unanimity toward President al-Jumayyil. He made it clear that any gain for Israel in Lebanon will result in the stay of the Syrian forces. Al-Asad told Minister Salim that he will frankly tell the U.S. secretary of state, when he meets with him at the end of the week, that the United States and Israel are putting more pressure on Lebanon than it can bear and that the United States must not let Israel achieve gains in Lebanon if it really wants to help Lebanon oust the foreign forces from its territory. Al-Asad said that Lebanon had nothing to do with this war and, therefore, that it must not pay any price for the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from its territory.

President al-Asad elaborated on the Arab situation and the international balance and said that, coupled with the positive aspects of Lebanese national unanimity, they are favorable toward Lebanon. He said that Lebanon must be cautious in any agreement with Israel.

Minister Salim explained the fears created in Lebanon by the occupation, because southern Lebanon has a different status than the Golan or Sinai. He said that the domination of southern Lebanon means domination of the entire Lebanese structure and negatively affects the situation in Lebanon.

President al-Asad said he considered the explanation made by Minister Salim as useful for his forthcoming talks with U.S. Secretary of State Shultz in Damascus. Lebanon considers Salim's visit to Damascus today as important regarding the new round of the U.S.-Lebanese talks that will be held with Shultz at noon today, Tuesday, when an expanded meeting that may last more than 6 hours will be held with Shultz.

U.S. Ambassador in Beirut Robert Dillon this evening briefed Minister Salim at the Republican Palace on the time of Shultz' arrival in Beirut today.

Al-Jumayyil, Al-Wazzan Meet UK's Carrington

NC030942 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Within the framework of a diplomatic move, President Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil has met with former British Foreign Secretary Lord Carrington who is currently visiting Lebanon.

Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan has likewise met with Lord Carrington in the presence of former Lebanese Ambassador in London Nadim Dimashqiyah.

Prime Minister al-Wazzan has explained to the former British foreign secretary the general situation in Lebanon and the prevailing atmosphere within the framework of negotiations with Israel and the difficulties facing these negotiations.

Al-Jumayyil Addresses Workers on Labor Day

NC010713 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] President Amin al-Jumayyil has favored Lebanese workers by addressing them on their day — the day of work and production. In his address, the president said: The salvation march is not only a political march but also continuous work, abundant production, and continuous serious daily action.

In his address, his excellency further said: When I said from the highest international platform give us peace and take from us what will astonish the world, I was thinking of you. My confidence in you was overwhelming and my faith was firm that the enlightened minds, faithful hearts, and able shoulders will respond to the call.

The president added: O Lebanese men and women, be you workers or businessmen, officials or professionals, craftsmen or farmers, civilians or soldiers, writers or poets, scientists or artists: I address you wherever you may be in your cities and villages, land or factories and shops, houses and clubs, and anywhere in the homeland or abroad to convey to you my warmest congratulations.

I pledge to continue together the making of a new day — the day of Lebanon's resurrection. It will be a day which will be made by a free and responsible trade union movement, productive and alert businessmen's boards, and a just and capable authority, whose authority will cover every inch of Lebanon. It will be a day patronized and protected by our valiant Army. It will be a day when all of us — president, government and citizens — will be workers in the service of one employer, namely Lebanon. Long live Lebanon.

French Minister Discusses Aid; Protocol Signed

NC291405 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Excerpts] French Minister of Urban Affairs and Housing Roger Quilliot has stated that the French Government has decided to give financial and technical aid for the implementation of development and reconstruction plans in Beirut.

The French Minister held a press conference at the Information Ministry's foreign journalists hall at 0930 today. The conference was attended by Public Works Minister Pierre Khuri, Information Minister Roger Shaykhani, French Ambassador Paul Marc Henry, Beirut Governor Mitri an-Nammar, senior officials in the Information Ministry, and the French Embassy and a group of Lebanese and foreign journalists.

At the outset of the press conference, Works Minister Pierre Khuri explained the civil plan that is to be implemented in Beirut and that will cover various parts of the capital.

Minister Khuri said France and Lebanon will cooperate to implement Beirut's city plan. He said there is an executive committee authorized to make decisions and consisting of a group of senior experts. He added that the French Government has put at the Lebanese Government's disposal six building, civil engineering, and city planning experts. Minister Khuri expressed hope that the plan will be ready by the end of next year.

French Minister Roger Quilliot then spoke. He said his presence in Lebanon is within the framework of cooperation between France and Lebanon and that the French Government has decided to aid Lebanon in the development and construction domains.

The French minister added that his government will finance the studies and furnish the study missions with the necessary expertise. He said the head of the French group which will help with the planning studies will be in Lebanon in about 15 days.

Ministers Khuri and Quilliot this morning signed a technical agreement between Lebanon and France, under which French experts and technical aid will be provided to study the new plan for the city of Beirut and its suburbs over a period of 2 years.

Tuwayni Interview With MONDAY MORNING

NC291646 Beirut MONDAY MORNING in English 25 Apr 83 pp 40-46

[Interview with Ghassan Tuwayni, Lebanese coordinator of negotiations for withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon at tripartite talks, by MONDAY MORNING correspondent Mona as-Said — date and place not given]

[Text] [Question] Syria and Saudi Arabia, not to mention President Franjiyah and other Lebanese politicians and editorialists, have accused Israel of responsibility for the attack on the American embassy. Do you think Israel would have any motive to mount such an attack?

[Answer] I can understand the reasons why Syria and Saudi Arabia, as well as others, should want to accuse Israel of having conducted the attack on the American Embassy, but I'm afraid that accusing Israel or any other party is a difficult and hazardous enterprise.

Surely, by inference, Israel has benefited, or may benefit, and

Israel was not long in drawing conclusions that served Israeli interests, such as saying that Lebanese security was not sufficiently secure and that the Lebanon was not able to take measures that would prove Israel wrong in its demands during the negotiations. But would this be enough to accuse Israel? I don't know.

However, one has to remember that in the Lebanon we are dealing with a situation where different governments, organizations, parties and groups interrelate, and I believe it is not unrealistic to say that very often, people working for one service could also be working for many others.

What we notice, factually and objectively, is that the game in Lebanon has produced some very strange bedfellows, and we have often seen the interests and objectives of parties that are considered opposite to each other coincide, at least tactically if not strategically. That does not necessarily mean that they are working together.

But let us say the following, and I think that at this stage one cannot fairly go beyond this:

This is a highly sophisticated job indeed. This is not an amateur job. Unless it is proven that the man who was driving the car was really a kamikaze who killed himself deliberately to blow up the embassy, then it surely is a job done by some highly skilled professionals.

Now, we may end up by having some clues, some indications. But in all those cases so far, from the Iraqi Embassy to the Bashir al-Jumayyil assassination to others, there is a ceiling beyond which information may lead to more than one source, and I think it will be very difficult to trace this one beyond that ceiling. We may — I don't know.

However, what may be permitted here is to draw some conclusions, and I will draw the following: Among those who are engaged in the "secret service wars" in Lebanon, there is more than one party who has an interest (in attacking the American Embassy), and Israel certainly designated itself by drawing the conclusions that it is to its interest to draw.

The one party that has no interest in this is Lebanon itself. I think Lebanon, despite the assurances from President Reagan, stands to lose too, because, given the complexity of the American political structure, given the so-called "Vietnam syndrome," given the various calls that are bound to be issued from various quarters that the U.S. should pull out, the American commitment, which will certainly be strengthened initially, may in the long run be questioned by some Americans.

Now, concerning the Israeli accusation that Lebanon's security measures are not adequate, I think the answer came from American sources: that a tragedy like this could never be prevented anywhere else in the world. The only way to prevent such attacks is to create a climate of security and a comprehensive system of security in Lebanon, and the condition for this is that all non-Lebanese forces should withdraw from Lebanon, that Lebanon should assume once again full and unchallenged control of its own territory, and that Lebanon should be given a chance to reestablish a security system and security structures that will provide adequate protection. I think this is possible.

I think that security in the Lebanon can never be, as the Israelis seem to indicate or as the Syrians seemed to indicate in the past, borrowed security. The security of Lebanon can never be contingent on somebody else running the security of the country or sharing in its management. We tried the Arab deterent force, and it soon became counterproductive....

And I think the Israelis may be well advised to look into their own security situation in south Lebanon and Mount Lebanon as well, where despite their tremendous strength as an occupying power, they have been unable to protect their own army and their own installations.

[Question] So you do not find the Syrian and Saudi accusation of Israel totally justified?

[Answer] I would hesitate to launch such an accusation. As a journalist, I find it logical, because Israel stands to benefit from this. But if we were to issue a responsible statement, I would want to know what serious, legal grounds one has to issue such an accusation. Surely, the motive is there and the means are there, but did Israel do it? I don't know.

[Question] But you believe there is little doubt that the perpetrators are a sophisticated intelligence service attached to a state?

[Answer] Nobody gets paid to be killed. I mean, if this is a kamikaze job, it cannot be the work of the secret service of a state; it is probably an organization where people are prepared to die for a cause. It has to be either that or a highly professional job.

[Question] Which is it, in your opinion?

[Answer] I don't know. Seriously, I don't know.

[Question] The Lebanese authorities have said they have evidence that could lead to the exposure of the perpetrators. They said the same thing after the Sadat street bomb earlier this year, but nothing happened. Do you think Lebanon can afford to announce its findings even if the identity of the perpetrators were determined — especially if the findings implicated a government involved in Lebanon?

[Answer] I don't know what evidence the Lebanese Government has, and I think it is not fair for one to speculate on this evidence.

However, I am sure that in a case like the present one, and given what is at stake, the Lebanese government should, for its own credibility, be in a position to announce its findings no matter who would be implicated. I think announcing the results of an inquiry would in itself be a deterrent against the repetition of such tragedies. If it becomes known that no matter what findings and what proof we have, we will never point an accusing finger and never expose the perpetrators of such tragedies, we will more or less be giving an incentive.

[Question] But so far, to your knowledge, there is not enough evidence or information?

[Answer] I don't know and I don't want to speculate. But I think if we want to stop the escalation of terror, we have to be in a position to point an accusing finger and to state clearly what evidence we have and take the necessary measures accordingly. However, I doubt that this evidence will ever lead to the summit of responsibility. As I said at the beginning, in secret service wars, you reach a ceiling beyond which you don't know who's working for whom and who's whose ally.

[Question] President Reagan's announcement that the attack would not affect his commitment to peace in Lebanon was predictable, since no state, certainly no superpower, can afford to be openly intimimdated by terrorism. But there have been suggestions in some Western publications that Washington may, after a face-saving period, submi' to public American pressure and reduce its presence in Beirut. Do you think that could happen, and if so, how would it affect the American commitment to Lebanon?

[Answer] Let me say this: The U.S. Government is not a charity organization, and President Reagan is not running a public relations operation here. President Reagan's initiative is an instrument of U.S. policy. The commitment of the U.S. in the Lebanon is certainly based on America's perception of its own interests in the Middle East and the imperatives of peace in the Middle East as it sees them. I am sure the U.S. must have envisaged the high risks involveo in the Reagan initiative. They probably did not envisage the physical risk of death in the manner that we have seen, but surely, President Reagan did not embark on his initiative not knowing what opposition he was going to come up against.

Therefore, I don't think it's a matter of discouragement or otherwise, or a matter of a "face-saving period." However, as I said earlier, the American political structure is complex and the Vietnam syndrome is still there, and there may at some times be changes in orientation. I doubt that this will be the case. I doubt that the U.S. will sacrifice its major national interests in the Middle East and be forced to resign its responsibilities simply because there was a terrorist attack against the embassy, no matter how costly it was. I doubt it very much.

[Question] Do you believe that the U.S. will adopt the Lebanese view that the attack underscores the need for the swift libeation of Lebanon?

[Answer] I think it does, yes, definitely. We were extremely reassured by what President Reagan said: That this attack leads him to say that the Lebanese should be left alone, allowed to lead their own free life unhindered. He underlined the necessity for peace in the Lebanon, the necessity of allowing Lebanon to reconstruct a decent and peaceful life. I think that in saying this, President Reagan was clearly pointing at one fact: That the responsibility is not Lebanese, that those who instigated and conducted this attack are not the Lebanese, and that, contrary to what Israel has said, the Lebanese cannot be held accountable for this.

[Question] Have there been any indications since the explosion that Washington intends to accelerate efforts towards the withdrawal of foreign forces from Lebanon?

[Answer] Yes. We feel that Ambassador Habib, Ambassador Draper and their mission have read the signals and understood our point of view — that the longer the negotiations, the more difficult it becomes to achieve results, and that incidents such as this one will only create a context within which it becomes estremely difficult, first, to maintain the Lebanese consensus around the policy now followed by the government in the negotiations and, secondly, to maintain the sort of security environment that is needed to conclude these negotiations positively.

[Question] The embassy bomb appears to indicate that some power or powers are still determined to destabilize Lebanon. Do you think Lebanon, with the help of its allies, can resist future attempts of this nature?

[Answer] I think Lebanon can resist. I think Lebanon needs the help of its allies. I think the magnitude and horror of the bomb came as a surprise, but certainly, none of us was naive enough to think that we had entered a phase of la vie en rose. We knew that after eight or ten years of wars, revolutions, subversion and destabilization, you cannot restore a country to sanity and security in a matter of months; that it will take tremendous effort and require a policy which is not one of pure security only but also of political and social security and stability to create the sort of climate that will discourage people from engaging in destabilization.

Furthermore, we know very well that destabilization efforts and enterprises are taking place all around greater Beirut, and we know that this is going to be a painful, costly process, full of trying and challenging events, but I am confident that we will be able to overcome it.

[Question] Following the course of the withdrawal talks and hearing official Lebanese statements about them, we get the impression that Israel is deliberately prolonging the negotiations, creating issues to avoid any agreement on withdrawal. Is this impression accurate?

[Answer] Accurate, no. But broadly true, yes.

[Question] Could you elaborate?

[Answer] Yes. I think it is clear that Israel is not in a hurry to reach a satisfactory conclusion. I think Israel may have embarked on these negotiations misunderstanding or misassessing — deliberately or not I don't know — the reality of the Lebanese situation. Israel probably thought Lebanon was going to almost automatically sign a peace treaty. The complexities of Lebanon should have been clearer to the Israelis.

I would want to say one thing here: I think the Israelis are extremely well-informed about Lebanon. They are probably the best informed government or group about what happens in Lebanon. I am sure they are very well-informed, but I am not at all sure that they understand the Lebanese.

I think to be well-informed is one thing and to understand a people is another. And I think the Israelis are doing a tremendous injustice to us the Lebanese, to themselves and to peace in the Middle East by trying to steer those negotiations in a course that

may well become obstructive.

[Question] Do you believe that Israel's motive in creating these problems in the talks is to allow time to create a situation where it can keep part of Lebanon's territory?

[Answer] Look, let us be realistic. Every country that can afford to keep a slice of another country's territory will certainly be tempted to do so, and I don't think Israel is different — I think Israel is probably worse than some, and it can't be expected to be better. I think what Mr. Begin said this morning about the Golan should be an eyeopener to many people, both here and abroad.

It is no secret that many Israeli circles would like to stage a partial withdrawal and maintain and strengthen their control of south Lebanon until events develop in a manner that will enable Israel to take a more definitive decision. Whether Israel has inherited and is committed to the ambitions the Zionist ideology had before the creation of Israel, namely, the ambitions to expand the Jewish national home to the Litani or beyond — that is something which is open to speculation. But the facts are here:

One, Israel is digging in south Lebanon, in a manner that does not indicate that it is about to withdraw.

Two, Israeli circles — not only the opposition, but some people in the government as well — have constantly spoken of partial withdrawal. We have rejected and continue to reject the notion of partial withdrawal, which we think is a very dangerous path to follow. If the Israelis withdraw unilaterally, we will certainly take over whatever territory they choose to withdraw from, but we will never accept a bargain or an agreement on partial withdrawal. It is up to the Lebanese to reconquer their land, and by "reconquer their land" I don't mean conducting a war of liberation.

I think Lebanon was dislocated before the June war, and even before the Israeli invasion of 1978. I think it was the deliberate policy of many, friends and foes alike, to dislocate Lebanon. Some Israeli circles continue to speak of Lebanon as a non-viable state and of an Israeli-Syrian condominum.

Ultimately, I think the Lebanese central government, Lebanese legitimacy, will have to bring the Lebanese back to Lebanon and safeguard the unity of the territory and the people. This will not be done instantly, in days or months. It is a long, difficult, challenging task that will have to continue even after the withdrawal. I think President al-Jumayyil and his government are conscious of this. It will be difficult but not impossible to re-establish Lebanon for the Lebanese and the Lebanese alone.

[Question] Do you believe, as many apparently do, that Israel is dragging its feet in Lebanon for the sole purpose of killing President Reagan's Middle East initiative?

[Answer] This is partly answered in the previous question. It is no secret that Israel rejects the Reagan initiative. Israel thinks it holds the U.S. hostage in Lebanon. Israel clearly deals with the U.S. as if U.S. policy is captive, a hostage in the hands of Israel here, and the Israelis think that as long as the U.S. is involved in inconclusive talks on the Lebanon, then there will be no mobility elsewhere, no progress in the broader framework.

Will that kill the Reagan initiative, or can Reagan go around the Lebanese situation and promote the more comprehensive peace process despite Israeli resistance? I don't know.

What I would want to say as a Lebanese is that not only are we firmly convinced that there cannot be peace in the Middle East except after a settlement of the Lebanese question, but we also think that if, by some diplomatic gimmick, the Lebanese situation were to be surgically insulated and allowed to continue in its present state of turmoil while the world, and particularly the U.S., addressed the more comprehensive problem, then there would be no conclusion to the more comprehensive problem. Why? Because the Lebanese situation has reached a degree of violence that makes Lebanon not only a danger to itself but also a danger to others and to international peace and security, which theoretically means a danger to Israel as well.

[Question] What other motive do you think Israel may have in prolonging the withdrawal talks?

[Answer] The possible motives are many, known and unknown. Some people will be tempted to say that Israel wants to have a trade-off, to propose to the U.S. Lebanon against something else — Lebanon against the West Bank, or Lebanon against God knows what. But I doubt that the Israelis are naive to the point of thinking that such tradeoffs can be conducted in this simplistic manner.

[Question] Washington appears reluctant to use enough pressure — or persuasion, to quote the diplomats — to dislodge Israel from Lebanon. Do you think an Israeli withdrawal is possible without considerable American pressure?

[Answer] I would hesitate to ask for either pressure or persuasion. I think this is a much more intricate game. I think America will have to come to a point at which it will have to assess the various issues at stake, the various advantages and disadvantages.

Let us put the question in a different perspective:

Israel wants to justify its position vis-a-vis America as a "strategic ally," as the sole valid and credible strategic ally America has here. Israel may even be tempted to think that it can use the American umbrella for a form of amateur imperialism, or let us "mini-colonialism." Many have already described Israel as the gendarme of the area.

It is up to the U.S. today, through the Lebanese negotiations and through the Reagan initiative, to bring Israel back to size and create the necessary ambiance for peace.

The U.S. will have to force Israel to accept its reality as just another state in the Middle East, neither less nor more. The Arab countries will have to accept Israel, of course, but this can only happen if Israel accepts itself as just another state — not a gendarme, not the superior ally of the U.S., jealous and exclusive, not the heir of some Roman empire, etc., etc....

Peace in the Middle East is equal peace — peace by partnership,

not Pax Israelica.

[Question] How long is Lebanon prepared to wait before it resorts to the "other options" that Foreign Minister Salim referred to last month?

[Answer] Surely, in their search for alternative options, the Lebanese should graduate into some form of realpolitik. But this can in no way mean "diplomacy by blackmail," which would be both immature and unethical. We also think that it does not pay and may even prove counterproductive. Our government has already indicated that we are pursuing the tripartite negotiations, in good faith, to their ultimate conclusion, within the framework of the American initiative.

But one must not look upon this American initiative, and the U.S. role in the negotiations, as something static. Placed in context, Reagan's Lebanese initiative is a changing reality. Its very nature is to evolve according to contextual developments. It cannot be insensitive to actions and reactions, from wherever these come, nor can it continue unchanged by the results produced, or by the lack of results.

Should the present format of the negotiations become unproductive or counterproductive, it will be imperative that both Washington and Beirut, either jointly or separately, seek other avenues that will lead to the fulfillment of the American commitment to Lebanon-namely, the withdrawal of all non-Lebanese forces and the restoration of the sovereignty of Lebanon.

To attain this goal, no option is illegitimate. To have opted for negotiations as the first and most legitimate course does not mean that other options, all legitimate, are foreclosed.

This is the dynamic reality of the American commitment, and this, I dare say, is the true nature of its contractual dimension.

Let me add, however, that there is another aspect to this dynamic reality which we Lebanese cannot — and in fact do not — overlook. I am referring here to Lebanon's performance, both in the negotiations and in establishing adequate responsive structures — structures that can enable Lebanon to assume its internal as well as its international responsibilities.

[Question] Could you give us an example of the other legitimate options Lebanon has?

[Answer] It would be sophomoric to expect me to discuss these here! Furthermore, I do not speak for the government here, and it is not up to me or anyone else to pick and choose.

Of course, there is the obvious ultimate recourse: the Security Council, the efficiency of which has been questioned all too often. But it is still there, and I would hesitate to discuss it at present, as it is premature to envisage a complaint before some time.

In responding to your earlier question, I declined to discuss "how long" we can wait, but surely, you do realize that time is of the essence. It is so in more than one respect, and I am tempted to paraphrase a well-known proverb here and submit that we should expect that "each day should bring its verity."

In a more serious way, I would like to stress that we are dealing with mobile equations. Hence, what would have been acceptable and within reach yesterday may not be valid today. More explicitly and in clearer terms, the changing realities may tomorrow provoke such unpredictable reactions that what may be decided upon today will probably prove unfeasible, nay, even unrealistic.

Suffice it to say that this game of diplomacy is not played in a vacuum, and we are not dealing with abstract concepts but with living — therefore changing — realities that we cannot control but must constantly try to seize before they elude us.

[Question] Would you illustrate your point with some examples?

[Answer] Yes, of course. I will give at least one example to try to prove my point: The notion of the "complementarity" between Syrian security and Lebanese security which Damascus introduced into the debate these past few days. In all candor, if the so-called "security arrangements" under discussion with Israel had been approved a few days ago, they would have been beyond discussion by now. But to accept them now would mean, in the light of the new Syrian notion (not to say "demand" or "warning"), an added dimension, an added obligation or an added risk. All these eventualities are beyond Lebanon's tolerance and they are therefore novel risks that should reduce our margin of flexibility with Israel.

One can think of other, more obvious examples that prove my point — such as the effect on the tripartite negotiations of the Husayn 'Arafat episode. Surely what was expectable (and I don't mean acceptable) before becomes impossible now.

Let us finally refer to the escalation of Soviet involvement in Syria and its repercussions on the Syrian-Israeli confrontation. The fact that it is TASS news agency that accuses Israel of preparing to attack Syria compels us to reassess the situation from a different optic. In fact, we can be sure Israel is now doing exactly that, and we would be totally naive and uneducated if we expected all things to remain equal before and after the all too visible Soviet moves or postures in the whole area, and their possible consequences.

[Question] Since the election of President Amin al-Jumayyil, Lebanon seems to have opted for the U.S. In view of this, can you reasonably expect the USSR not to oppose any settlement with Israel to which the U.S. is a party?

[Answer] To have chosen U.S. friendship does not necessarily mean going to war with the USSR. In fact, I am not at all sure that Washington would expect Lebanon, or would want Lebanon, to do that. An American-Soviet confrontation on Lebanese territory is surely not in Lebanon's interest and does not in any way conform with the stated objectives of the Reagan policy towards Lebanon. In fact, such a confrontation may run counter to U.S. interests in Lebanon and the Middle East.

Lebanon wants peace, and the U.S. can deliver peace because there can be no Israeli withdrawal without an American involvement.

Judging by past experience in the Middle East, partnership with

the USSR has been more credible in perspectives of war, not of peace — though the efficacity of such partnership was put to a severe test in the June war.

Through partnership with the USSR, Syria now hopes to achieve what it describes as a strategic balance with Israel. It is obvious that Lebanon is not about to engage in such a course, or be associated with it, unless peace proves to be totally and definitively beyond reach.

It may be useful to point out here that even the Soviet Union is not advocating war against Israel. On the contrary, Mr Gromyko's most recent declaration contained some very interesting reassurances addressed to Israel which some of our Arab friends will be well advised to examine more carefully, lest they be misled by false assumptions. More light must be shed on some objective conditions within the context of which Israel and Soviet interests may concord, and so do Syrian and Israeli interests as well.

No less paradoxically, one may find on closer scrutiny that the USSR is more supportive of Lebanon's independence and territorial integrity than appears on the surface, and that there may be greater Soviet interests at stake in restoring a free, democratic Lebanon than is readily admitted by the Soviets or recognized by some of their friends.

Whence the extreme complexity of what confronts us all.

Haddad Speech Addressed to Shultz 30 April

NC301048 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in English 0945 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Address by 'Free Lebanon' Commander Major Sa'd Haddad — live or recorded; place not given]

[Text] My dear friends, good day to you. First of all I would like to welcome Mr the secretary of the foreign affairs of the United States for his presence in Lebanon and I would like to thank him for the concern that he is showing toward Lebanon and the will, and the goodwill, that he has in purpose to establish the peace and the sovereignty in Lebanon.

In the same time, I want to point for him some points. Maybe he is not aware of the real situation in Lebanon or there is some people who are deceiving him on the real interests of Lebanon. First of all, I would like to tell you to go back a little bit to the rear in your thinking and in your research to see what is going on in Lebanon. And you can ask anybody from Lebanon who did live in Lebanon and has suffered what the Lebanese suffered. If you check you will know that Lebanon, the major part of Lebanon, became under real occupation of the terrorists and the Syrians. The Syrians did enter Lebanon without asking permission of anybody, without being requested. First of all they did enter illegitimately on sending real Syrian soildiers to fight against the Phalangists and their allies with the terrorists in Beirut and in other places.

I would like to remind you that the Syrians did invade Ad-Damur, As-Sa'diyat and al-Jiyah — Syrian Army under the name of the PLO. And you know the massacre committed against the inhabitants of these poor villages. Afterward, with the power that they have, with the influence of terror that they have upon most of the Arabic countries, the Syrians did succeed to have a decision from the side of the Arabic countries in claiming that they are in Lebanon as a deterrent force and that they are in Lebanon to help the legitimate authority and they are in Lebanon to help the Lebanese authority to establish its sovereignty upon all the Lebanese territory. What was the result? They became a real occupying forces. The Syrians did not let any sign of the Lebanese sovereignty to appear in any place. When Lebanon did try to build an army in 1977, the result was that the Syrians hit the new army and destroyed it, and afterward, took control upon the headquarters of the Lebanese Army and upon also of the castle of B'abda of President Sarkis at that time, knowing that the Syrians themselves, they appointed Sarkis as president.

The Syrians always claim that Lebanon is a part of Syria. They never accepted to establish diplomatic relations between them and Lebanon, claiming that Lebanon is part of them, how come they are going to establish such relations. And when most the Lebanese lost hope, when the PLO were going to declare their own state in Lebanon, when there was a real preparation — combined preparations — between the Syrians and the terrorists in purpose to invade Mount Lebanon completely and to exterminate all kind of Lebanese resistance, when the fear began to control the hearts of the Lebanese, that time and upon the request of the majority of the Lebanese, Israel did interfere — Israel, the IDF, did enter Lebanon. It is true the first steps are to establish the peace of Galilee, but on going farther than Al-Awwali River toward Beirut and West Beirut and cleaning West Beirut from the terrorists, it was upon a Lebanese request. If the Lebanese they are not saying this, I and on behalf of them, I can say it. I have no fear from anybody; I fear only God. The truth should be said. And as a result of this operation in Lebanon, there was like a coup d'etat — a white coup d'etat in Lebanon, which did change the regime completely from the left to the right as a result of this revolution, let us say, if such was a revolution, to defend Bashir al-Jumayyil. The late Bashir al-Jumayyil was elected as president. Unfortunately, he was assassinated but also his brother too was elected also and the face of the regime did change in Lebanon.

What was expected? It was expected from the majority of the Lebanese — all religions — I do not specify only the Christians, I say all religions, because the Muslims under the Syrian and terrorist occupation did suffer a lot and they were much more eager than the Christians to get rid of the occupying forces. What was expected? It was expected that a peace agreement immediately would be signed between Lebanon and Israel. But unfortunately, something wrong did happen with some foreign intervention and this foreign intervention convinced the elected president to change his line of action and to act in some way in opposite direction in purpose to satisfy the Arabic countries, knowing that all the Arabic countries without exception, participated by a way or other on destroying Lebanon. All the Arabic countries without exception are rejecting the Lebanese sovereignty. They want to finish with Lebanon; they want to make from Lebanon a part of them. We are not loved from the side of the Arabic countries. Sooner or later, if they did not succeed this time to control all Lebanon, they will look for other opportunity and to begin again. And I am sure at that time we will not have

a country ready ready to help us; we will not have Israel to help us, to hold on for 7 years afterward to liberate for us this country.

I am sure you, the Americans, you are not ready, you are not coming here to get involved in a war like Vietnamese war. You did say it openly. No other country will be ready to help us. It is good if the president will be able to make peace with Israel and, in the same time, to keep good economical relations with the Arabic countries. But, I am sure, he will not be able to put Israel and the Arabic countries in the same (?opinion). It is good to try, but I am sure it will not succeed. Now, the try did happen and it is over, and as you said it is time to make decisions. Now they say that there is three obstacles still not solved in Lebanon or in the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel: The Israeli patrols and the Israeli presence in the south, UNIFIL and Major Sa'd Haddad. For UNIFIL, I do not know if you are convinced if they have something good to do in Lebanon any more. We did try UNIFIL since 1978 until now. If UNIFIL would be succe. ful in its mission, Israel would not be forced to make its last operation in Lebanon, but the most simple truth is that they failed and they are going to fail again and again and again. Also the multi-national forces will fail, because it is very normal and logic. These foreign armies are not coming in purpose to die for Lebanon, for the beautiful eyes of the Lebanese. So, UNIFIL — it is my advice for them and for you — to send them back home. And if you want to help the south, I propose that you will save the money spent on UNIFIL and send this money to be spent in purpose to rebuild the south and to help the people of the south. And I am sure that is the best help that you can offer to Lebanon and to the people of the south.

For Israeli presence in Lebanon, I am sure when all Lebanon will be freed and there will be a strong army, a strong Lebanese Army, a strong government able to control all Lebanese territory, I am sure Israel does not want to have more burdens on its shoulders and Israel is going to withdraw its tropps without any request, but before that, I think it is good for Lebanon and for the people of the south to have military Israeli presence in purpose to keep, to help the people of the south and to keep the south clean from terrorist struggle.

As for Major Haddad, what about Major Haddad? I cannot understand the stand of our government. I was shocked and disappointed — to tell you to be frank with you — because I was expected from the beginning, from the day of the election of the new president that Major Haddad and his troops will be a Lebanese request, not only Israeli request. What Major Haddad and his troops did wrong for Lebanon and for the war? During 7 years, they were struggling alone in very difficult situation against terrorists and terrorism, against communists and communism. During 7 years, the only area in all Lebanon that used to keep the unity, coexistence and love with each other, it was the area controlled by Major Haddad and his troops. You could not find in any other place Christians and Muslims living together, going to the mission together, fighting together, believing in the same principles.

When all Lebanon was dislocated in many places, when the people used to slaughter each other on the ID card, knowing if the Christians will capture a Muslim, they used to slaughter him and vice-versa — if the Muslims used to capture a Christian, they used to slaughter him. You [illegible] not see such things happening in our area. On the contrary, they used to help each other because they were the population; they were going from a strong base, a solid base, from a Lebanese base.

This area, this population, these troops and their leader used to sacrifice a lot for their country to safeguard not only the south but also all Lebanon. If we did not succeed to hold on, there would be no Lebanon now. Nobody can claim that he did much more than we did for our country. Why we are not accepted? I do not know. Because the Syrians they do not want it? Because the terrorists they do not want it? Because the communists they do not want it? Because the fanatics they do not want it? For that you do not want us to be? From where we are? All of us, we are people of the south, from all the villages of the south — all religions. The typical unity is existing in the area controlled by us. Why? Why in the ash-Shuf, they did not succeed? Why? There is religious fight there. Because we are not there. If we would be there, there would not be religious fight, knowing we have Druze in our area, we have Christians, we have Shi'ites, we have Sunnites — all of them they believe in their country and they believe in their unity. They are against partition, unless if you are helping our ruler in Lebanon to achieve the partition in Lebanon. We are against it. I am telling you frankly and we are going to fight any kind of partition in Lebanon.

Tell me: Everybody is concentrating upon the south, knowing that the south did not stop any time to be Lebanese. We used to be always Lebanese, raising the Lebanese flag, fighting for the Lebanese flag. Who is going to bring back the unity to Ash-Shuf? Who is going to bring back the Christians to Ash-Shuf? Tell me. Are you going to fight for that? I do not believe it. If the Lebanese Army would be able to fight for that, also I do not believe it. So, and the main and the major obstacle, nobody is mentioning it — the Al-Biqa' and the north. What about the Syrians and the terrorists there? Do you think that they are going to withdraw so easily? And even if they will withdraw, who is going to fight the Khomeynis, the Muslim brothers and others there? Who is going to disarm them? I cannot see anybody is able to do it, unless if you are going to give that part to Syria and to keep only Lebanon from Juniyah to the south — to consider that that is the only Lebanon. Also we are not going to accept it. We want all Lebanon to be united, independent and free. and be sure, be sure — do not forget — that we are for Lebanon and for Lebanese sovereignty.

So, what I advise? I would like to tell you that there was something wrong from the beginning. These negotiations were not supposed to take place first. Lebanon was supposed to begin negotiations with the Syrians to assure their withdrawal from Al-Biqa' and the north, because they were — let us assume that Israel is a occupying force — they the Syrians were occupying force long time before Israel did enter Lebanon, knowing that a few days ago, the president's father, Mr Pierre al-Jumayyil, did say it was only Israel did liberate Lebanon, it was liberation action for Lebanon.

Anyhow, let us assume they are a occupying force as you claim, who was first? The Syrians were in Lebanon first. So, assure their withdrawal first and assure that Lebanese sovereignty will come back to the Al-Biqa' and to the north, and I am sure, Israel will not be an obstacle; Major Haddad will not be an obstacle,

because the biggest dream of Major Haddad and his people is to see all Lebanon free, united and independent.

So, also you should not listen only to some people. You should listen to the majority of the Lebanese. And you can see that this majority asked Major Haddad and his troops to hold on, not to give up, because they know this is an insurance, a warranty, for Lebanon and for them. They know that. You have to know, we are not obliged to fulfill the Syrian request. This request was made by the Syrians during Sarkis' regime — the same request, we did reject because we are not obliged to give — to accept to give — our country to the Syrians or to any other country. For that we are rejecting. It is not question of the person of Major Haddad; it is the question of the people who are behind Major Haddad and who believe in the same principles and the lines that Major Haddad is leading them.

Even if Major Haddad would not be there, nothing would be changed, because the people now, they are aware about their future and they want to continue. They want their Lebanon to be back safe, free and independent. They do not want to see that the terrorists and all the others coming back like before 1975, to occupy their country and to terrorize their life. Thank you very much. Now I am going to address our population also some more in Arabic.

VOH Reports Haddad's Statement on Present Role

NC031127 Marj 'Uyun Lebanon Voice of Hope in Arabic 1100 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Free Lebanon Commander Major Sa'd Haddad has stressed that he insists on directly commanding his forces in southern Lebanon and that he regards any decision appointing him deputy commander of these forces or an intelligence officer as betraying his homeland and his men.

Maj Haddad told the Voice of Israel's correspondent he does not expect Israel to let him down after he had fought alongside it for 7 years. He added that he knows the Israelis will not abandon their allies. He personally affirmed he was not a commodity for sale.

Maj Haddad invited U.S. Secretary of State Shultz to meet with him, since in Beirut the Americans have heard only the Syrian demands from President al-Jumayyil.

Major Haddad was speaking to the Voice of Israel's correspondent in Marj 'Uyun while several hundreds of volunteers were joining his forces in southern Lebanon.

VOAL Reports on Security Situation 2 May

NC021856 (Clandestine) Voice of Arab Lebanon in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpts] The Israeli enemy forces are continuing to send reinforcements into Al-Biqa'. Reports from Al-Biqa' indicate that the enemy has planted many mines along the contact lines confronting the Syrian positions and that senior Israeli officers were seen inspecting advanced positions and talking with Israeli officers there. The reports add that the Israeli forces have been put on alert.

This morning, the enemy forces started cutting down trees alongside the coastal road between the Az-Zahrani and Al-Ghaziyah areas so they cannot be used to hide explosive charges. They have also prohibited the parking of cars on the road.

This morning, Israeli military experts discovered a rocket base in a valley in the Az-Zaghrani area. Two Katyusha rockets which were directed at one of the Israeli military positions, were found.

The Syrian forces have conducted live-ammunition maneuvers for the second time in the past 10 days. Syrian armored forces and aircraft participated in the maneuvers, which was attended by Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas and a number of the Syrian command officers.

Syrians, Israelis Reinforcing in Al-Biqa'

NC031103 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1015 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] The axes on the mountain are somewhat calm in the wake of the security tension that prevailed most of the night in 'Alayh, Suq al-Gharb, Ash-Shuwayfat, Kafr Shima, Kafr Him, (Sirjbay), (Wadi Bnihlay), Wadi ad-Daur and (Dayr Durit) in Ash-Shuf.

The situation in the Al-Biqa' area continues to be tense. The Syrians and the Israelis are intensifying their military reinforcements there. Meanwhile, Fatah and the other Palestinian forces have placed their armed men in the north and in the Al-Biqa' on alert.

Armed Forces Carry Out Military Exercise

JN021337 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1315 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Damascus — Upon the instructions of Lieutenant General Hafiz al-Asad, commander in chief of the Armed Forces, one of our armored formations carried out a tactical exercise with live ammunition in cooperation with all army corps, fighter planes, and helicopter gunships.

General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief and defense minister; Comrade Dr Rif'at al-Asad, Ba'th Party Regional Command member; Major General 'Ali Aslan, deputy chief of staff; and some General Command officers attended the practical implementation of the exercise.

The commanders and the troops acted as though the mock targets were real. Our valiant soldiers fought in high spirits, and wit h dexterity and accuracy throughout the stages of the exercise.

Further Report

JN021856 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpts] The exercise coordinator of the military exercise welcomed General Mustafa Talas and Staff Colonel Rifa't al-Asad, noting the importance of the exercise in strengthening the fighting capabilities of our ideological army, which is the solid rock upon which the imperialist and Zionist ambitions will crash. He affirmed that the military training and fighting preparedness will continue until we achieve the goals of our nation — achieving victory and liberation under the brave and historic leadership of President Hafiz al-Asad, leader of the militant march of our nation.

At the begining of the exercise, the exercise coordinator explained the tactical plan, the various stages of implementation, and the aims of the training exercise. The formation began the attack backed by artillery and planes, and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy forcing it to withdraw from its defensive positions. The formation continued its mission in cooperation with the airborne landing units by carrying the offensive deep inside the enemy territory, repulsing the enemy's advancing reserve units and occupying the lines assigned to it deep inside the enemy's defenses. The commanders and troops acted as if the battle were real. Our valiant soldiers fought with high spirits, dexterity and accuracy throughout the stages of the exercise.

At the end of the exercise, Gen Mustafa Talas praised the planning and implementation of the exercise. He affirmed the importance of high standards of military readiness and preparedness to thwart the enemy's opportunities, abort its expansionst schemes aimed against the steadfastness of Syria, the bastion of Arab steadfastness against imperialist-Zionist-reactionary challenges, and to foil all liquidatory solutions that are under discussion in the Arab arena.

Ahmad Iskandar Views Shultz Peace Mission

PM031444 Paris LE MONDE in French 30 Apr 83 pp 1,7

[Interview with Information Minister Ahmad Iskandar by Eric Rouleau in Damascus — date not given]

[Text] Damascus — The Damascus newspaper headlines this Friday morning are still devoted to the imminence of a war with Israel, to the builduip of troops, and to the fortifications the Israeli army is allegedly constructing on the front. Western diplomatic circles, which are rather skeptical, are wondering about the meaning of this alarmist press campaign that has not yet been confirmed by any serious intelligence However, it is pointed out that a military communique issued between Wednesday night and Thursday morning admitted that it was President al-Asad's forces that opened fire on two Israeli bulldozers that had started leveling work not far from the Syrian lines. Although the idea that the incident is a sign heralding a general conflict is being ruled out, diplomatic circles are convinced that it is connected with Mr Shultz's Middle East tour.

Indeed, the Syrian leaders are showing more anxiety about the result of the U.S. secretary of state's mission than about the emphatically announced "Zionist action." According to them, Mr Shultz "will impose" an agreement between Beirut and Jerusalem which would place Lebanon "at the mercy of the Israeli soldiers and Israeli hegemony." And while Syria's security was thus threatened, the United States, Lebanon, and the Jewish state would combine their pressure to secure the withdrawal of Damascus' expeditionary corps.

Will they go so far as to resort to violence? Although official circles admit in private that the balance of forces is still largely in Israel's favor, such a possibility is envisaged with a degree of serenity. The Syrian defenses are regarded as strong thanks, among other things, to the new sophisticated weapons received from the Soviet Union. A confrontation would therefore not be catastrophic and would, it is hoped, open the door to East-West negotiations with a view to a general settlement in the Near East. That is the theory most frequently being put forward in diplomatic circles to explain the Syrian press' belligerent attitude. This is also the impression that emerged from a long interview granted to us by Mr Ahmad Iskandar, information minister and member of the Ba'th party leadership, who is regarded as one of President Al-Asad's closest aides.

"No decision has yet been taken regarding a possible visit to Damascus by Mr Shultz," he told us immediately. "But, should it take place, we are, as always, prepared for dialogue. We will listen to him carefully and will repeat to him that Syria poses only one precondition for its withdrawal from Lebanon, namely, the Israeli army's prior and unconditional withdrawal from that country. It is important to know that, on this point, we have reached complete agreement with President Amin Al-Jumayyil, who, moreover, has just stated publicly that he would never accept conditions posed by Israel thath would undermine Lebanon's honor and sovereignty."

"We Will Never Capitulate"

However, the real problem for Syria is a much larger one; forthe Lebanese affair is only one aspect of the Israeli-Arab conflict. "Of course," Mr Iskandar stated, "we are determined to secure the Golan Heights' liberation too, but the fundamental problem relates to the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and to a state — crucial demands which the Reagan plan, even more than the Camp David agreements, rejects. Back in 1975, Mr Kissinger had already offered to restore the Golan Heights to us provided we dissociate ourselves from the PLO, as Mr as-Sadat was later to do. We categorically rejected that deal. We have not changed our opinion. We want a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace for the whole region; and this peace can only be based on the Israelis' withdrawal from all the territories occupied in 1967 and full recognition of the Palestinian people's rights.

[Question] How do you hope to obtain such a result?

[Answer] The implementation of the UN resolutions would suffice. In 1973 we accepted the terms of Security Council Resolution 338, which recommends convening an international conference under UN auspices, in the presence of the United States and the USSR, and with the participation of all the warring parties without exception. Today, we still hope that such a conference will be convened.

[Question] Is it realistic to insist on this when this procedure did not succeed despite the efforts made between 1973 and 1977?

[Answer] An agreement was in fact reached on this subject in 1977. We were to send a joint Arab delegation including PLO representatives to the Geneva conference, but As-Sadat chose to scuttle that agreement — at the last minute — by going to Jerusalem alone. President Carter, who had constantly advocated a comprehensive settlement, went along with him. [answer ends]

In the Syrian information minister's eyes, the Reagan administration is worse than the previous one. It has no credibility. "U.S. policy is identical to Israeli policy, whose main characteristic is expansionism," he told us. "The United States wants to make Israel the dominant power in the Middle East to ensure its own hegemony in the region. Washington lavishes fine words on us while supplying the Zionist state with many forms of aid enabling it to dictate its will and violate all the UN resolutions. The United States certainly has no qualification for playing the intermediary or mediator. It was President Reagan himself who said: Israel is the United States' only strategic ally in the Middle East, despite the friendship that many regions show toward the United States. Washington's aim is not peace, but domination exercised through the Israeli gendarme. Such a situation can only lead to new wars, but everybody must know for certain that we will never capitulate, never, you hear."

[Question] Western diplomatic circles are convinced that your fears regarding a forthcoming Israeli offensive are not justified. What is your basis for maintaining the contrary?

[Answer] The threats proferred by the Israeli leaders themselves, the military preparations we are observing in the field, and Tel Aviv's expansionist objectives. Israel would like the Arabs to crawl to the negotiating table so it can dictate its conditions for peace. If such a peace were to be achieved, supposing it is conceivable, it would be an illusion, it would be unjust, and it would be imposed by force.

[Question] Do you have Soviet guarantees regarding the security and integrity of Syrian territory?

[Answer] Syria is relying on its own forces and on the support of the Arab states and its Soviet friends. The USSR stands beside us to repel any aggression and to secure implementation of the UN resolutions. It supplies us with the arms that will enable us to defend ourselves effectively, and we will never forget that.

[Question] So, it is not a question of official assurances, but of aid similar to that which the USSR gave to An-Nasir in the past which did not make it possible to prevent Egypt's defeat in 1967?

[Answer] The USSR is giving us military, political, and economic aid; what more can we ask? But I repeat: We are counting primarily on our own forces to defend ourselves and to liberate the occupied territories.

[Question] Should we deduce from this that you reserve the right to launch new hostilities against Israel?

[Answer] As an occupied country we very certainly have the right and the duty to take all the necessary measures, be they political, economic, or military, to liberate ourselves. It is the will of peoples and not of invaders that traces the course of history. [answer ends]

Despite these warlike words, throughout the interview Mr Ahmad Iskandar constantly advocated a "just, comprehensive, and lasting peace." "Jews and Arabs stand to gain nothing from war" he told us, for instance. "We will shed our blood on each other in vain because the United States alone will benefit. It is necessary to end this interminable war of religion, which is unworthy of the 20th century and into which foreign powers are pushing us to serve their egotistical interests. The Israeli Government, for its part, ought to abandon its crazy dreams of bringing us to our knees. We passionately want peace. If all military spending were to be devoted to development purposes the Middle East would become a paradise for all the peoples inhabiting it."

Syria is clearly using both the stick and the carrot to gain a choice position on the diplomatic chessboard. But, out of concern for balance, it is determined to include the USSR in possible comprehensive negotiations. This is probably the main obstacle to an agreement between Damascus and Washington in the near future.

Beirut AS-SAFIR Cited on Shultz Damascus Trip

JN030836 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 0800 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Highly placed sources in Beirut have mentioned that U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will leave for Damascus next Friday.

Meanwhile, the Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR reports today that Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad confirmed the date of the visit during his meeting with Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim yesterday.

Al-Asad Receives Yasir 'Arafat, Others 3 May

JN031121 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] At 1245 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received a delegation representing the Palestinian leadership led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The delegation comprises Khalid al-Fahum, 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Muhammad Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Ahmad Mahir al-Yamani, Muhammad Khalifah, Talal Naji, Hanna Nasir, and Jamal as-Surani.

Radio Monte Carlo Report

JN031256 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1210 GMT 3 May 83

[Telephone dispatch by Paris Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Damascus Louis Faris — recorded]

[Text] An extremely important meeting was held today between the Syrian and Palestinian leaderships. At 1245, Damascus time, President Hafiz al-Asad received a delegation representing the Palestinian leadership led by Yasir 'Arafat, chairman of the PLO Executive Committee. The delegation comprises PNC Speaker Khalid al-Fahum and PLO Executive Committee members 'Abd al-Muhsin Abu Mayzar, Zuhdi an-Nashashibi, Yasir 'Abd Rabbuh, Ahmad Mahir al-Yamani, Muhammad Khalifah, Talal Naji, Hanna Nasir, and Jamal as-Surani.

Our radio asked Khalil al-Wazir, deputy commander in chief of the Palestinian revolution forces, about today's meeting between President Al-Asad and Yasir 'Arafat. He replied: Everyone desires that relations return to normal. Although these relations were somewhat affected at a previous stage, we believe that this meeting can act as a point of departure for drawing up strong fraternal relations that would ensure the Palestinian-Syrian cohesion necessitated by the difficult circumstances through which our nation is passing and by the Zionist dangers menacing the Palestinian state [as heard], Syria, and the Arab nation. Abu Jihad [Khalil al-Wazir] underlined the importance of this meeting since it came in the wake of a series of intensive Palestinian military and political contacts held in Damascus during the past 2 days under Yasir 'Arafat. He added that these contacts focused on the present state of maximum alertness and vigilance. He affirmed that this meeting ended the cool relations between the two sides.

I asked Abu Jihad if today's meeting touched on the military coordination between Syria and the resistance in Lebanon, particularly since the resistance yesterday declared a state of alert. He said that this is dictated by the responsibilities for joint action since the Israeli threat is mounting. He added that the two sides must deepen their coordination, particularly in the military field, to confront the grave circumstances around them.

More on Al-Asad's Meeting With Lebanon's Salim

JN021150 Damascus Doemstic Service in Arabic 1115 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Damascus — At 1000 today, President Hafiz al-Asad received the Lebanese president's envoys Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Jean 'Ubayd, and Deputy Chief of Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan. The meeting was attended by Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam.

The Lebanese delegation briefed the president on the atmosphere of the negotiations between Lebanon and Israel and on the Israeli demands presented during the negotiations.

The president asserted that Israel, through these demands, is seeking to impose complete hegemony over Lebanon and deprive it of the components of its sovereignty and freedom, although Israel announced and the United States reiterated — at the outset of the Israeli invasion [of Lebanon] — that Israel had no covetous designs in Lebanon and on its sovereignty.

The president asserted that Lebanon — considering public opinion in those countries that oppose the Israeli invasion — can, through its ceaseless steadfastness and common stand with Syria and the Arab countries in one trench, impose an Israeli withdrawal, without this harming its freedom or the conditions of its sovereignty.

President Hafiz al-Asad reaffirmed that Syria will support Lebanon and will resist Israel's attempts to make any gains, because such gains would harm Lebanon's security and independence in as much as they would harm Syria's security.

Khaddam, Salim Interview With Syrian Television

JN021854 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 83

[Interview granted by Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim to Syrian and Lebanese television; conducted by unidentified interviewers — date and place not given; videotaped]

[Text] [Question] Your Excellency Mr Minister, after becoming acquainted with the nature of the current stage of the negotiations in Lebanon, what is Syria's position on Lebanon's stance as expressed by His Excellency President Al-Jumayyil, His Excellency Prime Minister al-Wazzan, and Foreign Minister Salim on more than one occasion?

[Khaddam] I cannot call what is going on now negotiations, because negotiations are usually held between equal parties. Here I recall what U.S. Secretary of State Shultz said to me. He said that any agreement reached under the gun is not considered an agreement. Therefore, the attempt to put pressure on Lebanon in order to obtain Israeli gains does not only reflect on Lebanon and its future, but also on Syria and the whole Arab region. Hence, our position was clear and unwavering. We said that any Israeli gains imposed on Lebanon will keep the Syrian forces in Lebanon until the removal of these gains.

The issue is related to the future of the region, the future of Lebanon, and the future of Syria. It is also related to the international situation, because we cannot isolate what is going on in Lebanon and the region from what is taking place in the rest of the world. Therefore, we stand by the side of the Lebanese people and by the side of His Excellency Shaykh Amin al-Jumayyil and the Lebanese Government in their rejection of the Israeli and U.S. conditions and pressures. This position is based on our pan-Arab and national commitment because we cannot ignore what is taking place in the Lebanese arena or isolate what is taking place in the Lebanese arena from what may take place in the whole region.

[Question] Mr Minister, how can Syria and, consequently, the Arab states employ their capabilities practically to support Lebanon in this difficult stage?

[Khaddam] Several times the president has told His Excellency President al-Jumayyil, via envoys as well such as Brother Dr Elie Salim and Brother Jean 'Ubayd, that Syria will not hesitate to undertake any action or measure that can back Lebanon's independence, sovereignty, unity, and the Lebanese State's right to exercise its full powers, like any other state, over every part of Lebanon. There are many things that could be done, and we will do all that we can, because undermining Lebanon's dignity and freedom means undermining our freedom and dignity.

[Question] Mr Minister, the situation in the region is abounding with grave possibilities, and there is talk about a possible confrontation between Syria and Israel. How possible do you think this is?

[Khaddam] The situation in the region has not calmed down. All the ingredients for an explosion are there. There is Israeli aggression against Lebanon, Israeli intransigence, Israeli refusal to withdraw from the occupied Arab territories, Israeli ambitions, and Israeli concentration on the liquidation of the Palestinian issue. All these factors can lead to an explosion, particularly if we take into account what the Israelis say about their ambitions in Lebanon as well as their measures, preparations, and statements. All these, in fact, create a tense atmosphere. All eventualities are present. In this regard, I would like to say that if we are exposed to such an eventuality, we will defend Lebanon's dignity and our dignity to the utmost of our ability and with all available capabilities and means, because Lebanon's dignity is our dignity. We will also defend our freedom and land. (MORE) 021730 lf/twitchell/mh 02/1914z may

[Question] Mr Minister, it seems that the Arab ranks are in a state of retreat, serious retreat. Do you think it is necessary to hold an Arab summit again in order to adopt a unified Arab position on Lebanon or the region?

[Khaddam] The subject of a summit must be carefully studied. Such a study must be made before the summit. Some Arab states, which placed themselves within the framework of retreat, should reconsider their stands before taking part in a summit. There is no doubt that there is a retreating Arab situation, but we are confident that this situation will not last long, particularly since the capability and determination for steadfastness are available. This availability will insure an end — which might not be far in the future — for many matters are currently taking place in the Arab arena

[Question] Mr Minister, how can you reconcile the Lebanese position, which President Amin al-Jumayyil submitted about 1 week ago, and statements by Shultz, who said he came to draw up an agreement?

[Salim] There is an armistice agreement between Lebanon and Israel. This agreement is still valid. However, since its occupation of Lebanon in June 1982, Israel has controlled a large part of Lebanon. It is now trying hard to remain in Lebanon. We need to evaluate or draw up an agreement. This might be a developed armistice agreement or another agreement conducive to the Israeli armies' withdrawal from Lebanon. When a third of Lebanon is occupied by Israel, we do not have a choice as to whether to negotiate or not. We always negotiate for the Israeli army's withdrawal. We negotiate within the framework of our dignity, sovereignty, and our national stands.

The most important national task facing us now is that of liberating the Lebanese territory. In view of this task, we are ready to negotiate, to negotiate with Israel to reach an agreement by which the Israeli army will withdraw. His excellency the president has on several occasions marked the red lines that Lebanon cannot bypass in any agreement concluded with Israel. We stick to our stand for the sake of restoring Lebanon's rights, sovereignty, and independence. Lebanon is negotiating with all dignity, strength, and vigor because by negotiating, it aims at liberating the land. We are confident that with the help of all our friends, we will manage, God willing, to liberate the Lebanese territory.

I have come today to brief his excellency the president on the developments of the talks that have been going on for 4 months between Lebanon, Israel, and the United States. We have come to put him in the whole picture and hear his opinion and stands — stands that we have always considered decisive, national stands. We must take all his advice and stands into account so any agreement we conclude with Israel will be in harmony with the supreme national interests as well as all the Arab countries' interests. However, we must not forget that the occupied country is Lebanon, that the afflicted country is Lebanon, and that the country which is the open target is Lebanon. Therefore, Lebanon will work with utmost determination and strength, and in coordination and consultation with its friends to liberate its land from this domination.

[Question] Thank you.

Lebanese Envoys Depart

JN021436 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1425 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Damascus, 2 May (SANA) — Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil's envoys, Lebanese Foreign Minister Dr Elie Salim, Jean 'Ubayd, and Deputy Chief of Staff Brigadier General 'Abbas Hamdan, left Damascus this afternoon after a brief visit during which they met with President Hafiz al-Asad. They were seen off at the airport by Faruq ash-Shar', minister of state for foreign affairs, and ranking Foreign Ministry officials.

Palestine Broadcast on Shultz' Mideast Mission

JN202152 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 2 May 83

[Palestine Broadcast: Talk of the return]

[Text] Brother strugglers, we the Arabs, would have liked to believe what U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz said about his current mission in the region. However, and unfortunately for him, the practices of Shultz and his delegation contradict his statements and the U.S. Government's statements on the nature of this mission.

According to U.S. sources, particularly George Shultz himself, the nature or basis of this mission is to solve the Lebanese crisis, achieve an agreement on the withdrawal of Israeli forces from Lebanon and investigate the possibility of reviving President Reagan's plan, which was buried by the Arab nation before Israel rejected it. These are the statements that prepared for and accompanied George Shultz' mission since his departure from Washington.

These are the statements, but the deeds are certainly different. To be precise, yesterday, Shultz' assistant, Lawrence Eagleburger, spoke in detail about what he called the Soviet presence in Syria. Thus, during George Shultz' first meeting with the Israeli Government, the working paper he discussed with Menahem Begin and the Israeli team of negotiators was a report by Israeli intelligence, not on Lebanon or what Israel calls its security situation in Lebanon, but on the weapons Syria received recently, according to Israeli intelligence. Furthermore, the new Israeli intelligence chief, Barak, himself, distributed the report and participated in the discussion.

The Israeli report on Syria receiving arms might be linked to what is happening in Lebanon. However, the most important and permanent significance of U.S. and Israeli discussions regarding Syria receiving arms, is the U.S. green light for the Israeli aggression against Syria, or perhaps a collusion aimed at saturating Israel with more U.S. arms to enable it to carry out the aggression against Syria. Thus, Shultz' talks in Israel deal with the Israeli aggression against Syria and not with Israel's withdrawal from Lebanon or investigating the possibility of reviving President Reagan's plan.

This piece of evidence alone may not be sufficient. Therefore, we present the second piece of evidence, which is Shultz' excessive optimism. Of course, we do not advocate pessimism, but how can we reconcile several months of fumbling in the Lebanese-U.S.-Israeli talks, with Shultz' rumors of an imminent agreement that would satisfy Lebanon? Let us remember here, for the sake of continuity, that Philip Habib was, and still is, more reserved than Shultz, if not more inclined to pessimism than his superior Shultz, who is extremely optimistic. Shultz' optimism is not sincere . It is a trick to soothe nerves and pacify the Arabs while Israel deals a blow to Syria. Arab Syria has had lots of experience with these U.S.-Israeli methods and is very experienced in confronting them.

Syrian Communist Party Issues Statement

JN302215 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1930 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Damascus, 30 Apr (SANA) — In its statement today on the occasion of May Day, the Syrian Communist Party asserted that Syria's steadfastness and firm stand have enabled the Arab liberation movement to deal strong blows to the imperialist and Zionist designs against the Arab nation. The statement also affirmed that U.S. imperialism and Israel are preparing for a large-scale aggression against Syria as a result of its firm stand, its rejection of all capitulatory solutions, and its brave confrontation of the imperialist conspiracies, which aim at liquidating the Palestine question.

The statement also pointed out that the working class, confident in its ability, will exert every effort to repulse the imperialist-Israeli aggression against Syria and prevent the criminals and their supporters from achieving their goals. The statement added that Syria is not alone in its battle against imperialism and Zionism, because it is supported by all the Arab nationalists and the socialist countries, led by the friendly Soviet Union, which provides Syria with all the requirements of steadfastness and helps it strengthen its defensive capabilities.

The statement also called for mobilizing all available forces in defense of the homeland against the aggressors and Zionists. It also said that the increased danger of aggression makes it incumbent upon our people and their nationalist and progressive forces to contribute to the repulsion of the aggressor.

PDRY President Sends Support Letter to Al-Asad

JN291808 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad has received the following letter of support from President 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, secretary general of the Yemeni Socialist Party, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council, and chairman of the PDRY Council of Ministers:

We are watching with great concern the increasing Israeli concentrations along the Syrian borders, which are manifestations of plans to launch an aggression against Syria in order to weaken its heroic steadfastness and to implement projects of capitulation and liquidation.

We express our solidarity with steadfast Syria, and stand by it in the face of all forms of threats, pressure, and aggression. We are confident that the militant Syrian people will be able to foil all the hostile plans being plotted against Syria so they can continue the struggle to defend their national sovereignty and legitimate causes and to participate in the just Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Syria has always been a bastion of Arab steadfastness against imperialist and Zionist schemes, which are hostile to our Arab nation. During difficult circumstances, the Syrian people have faced aggressive challenges, relying on the solidarity of all the forces of progress, freedom, socialism, and peace in the Arab homeland and the world. Today, steadfast Syria is facing con-

spiratorial plans to launch an aggression against it. We are confident that all these plans will be shattered on the firm steadfastness of the Syrian people and of their cohesion with Arab and world revolutionary forces.

You must be certain that we will be at your side in the fateful Arab battle to confront any aggression against heroic Syria.

Italy's Colombo Arrives, Begins Talks

JN021904 Damascus Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Talks were held at the Foreign Ministry this evening between a Syrian delegation led by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and an Italian delegation led by Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo.

The meeting was attended on the Syrian side by the assistant foreign minister, the Syrian ambassador in Rome, the director of information, the director of the West Europe Department, and the director of the Economic Department in the Foreign Ministry.

On the Italian side, the meeting was attended by the director of political affairs, the assistant director of economic affairs, the press director, the director of the Middle East Political AffairsDesk in the Italian Foreign Ministry, and the Italian ambassador in Damascus.

During the session, the two sides reviewed the current international situation, particularly the situation in the Middle East, and bilateral relations. Khaddam and Colombo had a meeting earlier.

Italian Foreign Minister Emilio Colombo arrived in Damascus this afternoon at the head of an official Italian delegation on a 3-day visit to Syria during which he will hold talks with the Syrian officials on bilateral relations and the situation in the Middle East.

He was welcomed at Damascus airport by 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam, deputy prime minister and foreign minister; Assistant Foreign Minister Rashid al-Kilani; the director of the West Europe Department; the director of information; the protocol director; the director of the Economic Department in the Foreign Ministry; as well as the Syrian ambassador in Rome and the Italian ambassador in Damascus.

Shultz Takes More Active Role in Peace Talks

Presents U.S. Ideas

TA021307 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] A senior Israeli official said in a briefing to reporters in Jerusalem that this morning George Shultz began to present U.S. ideas to the Lebanon negotiations. So far the Americans have listened to us patiently, the Israeli official said, but from now on they will present their own ideas.

Some Disputes Reportedly Settled

TA021603 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1557 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] The prime minister and Ministers Arens and Shamir are now conferring with U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz. Our political correspondent Oz Frankel reports:

[Frankel — live] An official Israeli source announced a short while ago that some of the disputes in the negotiations were settled in today's talks. It seems that most of the progress was made over semantics, in the area of formulating the various clauses. The Israeli source added that the talks were conducted in a matter-of-fact and friendly atmosphere.

Today's marathon discussion dealt mainly with various problems connected with the security arrangements. Sa'd Haddad's status and the degree of Syrian willingness to leave Lebanon were discussed in a meeting held this morning between George Shultz and Ministers Shamir and Arens.

This evening, after the meeting with the prime minister, the negotiating teams will resume their work meetings.

Concessions on Haddad Denied

TA021631 Tel Aviv ITIM in Hebrew 1615 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpt] Beersheba, 2 May (ITIM) — The latest reports to the effect that the government, as it were, has agreed to concessions regarding Major Sa'd Haddad's status are totally unfounded. This was stated today by Science and Development Minister Professor Yuval Neeman during a visit to Ben-Gurion University in the Negev.

Minister Neeman said the government is united in the opinion that it is impossible to withdraw from Lebanon without reaching security arrangements that will guarantee stability. In his estimation, Maj Haddad is a strong local element that can control events in southern Lebanon and guarantee stability there.

Shultz-Begin Meeting Reviewed

TA021732 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1710 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] At the end of a short meeting between Prime Minister Begin and U.S. Secretary of State Shultz, the prime minister said that bones of contention still remain between the negotiating parties. Secretary Shultz is leaving for Beirut tomorrow to hold a series of meetings, and he will later return to Jerusalem. Our political correspondent Shimon Schiffer reviews today's talks with Shultz:

[Begin recording] [Schiffer] Each day George Shultz remains in the region increases the desire and need to prevent a failure in the mission, and to reach an Israeli-Lebanese settlement. Political observers are united in the opinion that Shultz cannot return to Washington without an agreement. A failure here will not be accepted at home, in the United States.

On the path to achieving the goal, the U.S. secretary of state is trying out all methods of negotiations including talks in various combinations: tete-a-tete talks with the prime minister, talks with the defense and foreign ministers, talks with large teams of military men, and Foreign Ministry senior officials. Shultz is listening and raising ideas of his own. Shultz is also prepared to deal with issues which the Israeli side wants to discuss: strategic coordination in view of increased Soviet involvement in the region, for one.

So, in the framework of the meetings Shultz is holding with Menahem Begin, they met in the prime ministers office this afternoon. At the end of the meeting they did not have any tidings for the waiting newsmen:

[Shultz — in English] We finished another of a series of meetings in connection with our efforts to help Israel and Lebanon reach an agreement. And as we do, we continue to narrow the process of the things that are of greatest concern and standing. We expect to have another meeting with Ministers Shamir and Arens tomorrow morning and after that I hope to go to Beirut and have another set of sessions there. But as always here, our meetings have been conducted with a grace and a style, and constructive spirit.

[Begin — in English] I would like to express our deep gratitude to the secretary of state and his colleagues for the great effort the secretary is making during his stay in the Middle East. I would like to say [words indistinct] the secretary of state that there still are problems which have to be discussed, both in Jerusalem and in Beirut.

[Schiffer] We have ended another meeting in the series of talks concerning the efforts to bring about a settlement between Israel and Lebanon, Shultz said. He said that the talks focused on the most important issues, and that tomorrow morning he will again meet with the foreign and defense ministers and will later travel for another series of meetings in Beirut. The atmosphere in the talks is good, as usual, the secretary noted.

The prime minister thanks the U.S. secretary of state. I must say there are still disputed points that should be discussed both in Jerusalem and in Beirut, Begin said. The prime minister wished Shultz success in his talks in Beirut.

In terms of progress, today too, the parties reported additional progress in the talks. New formulations were found and the army officers continued to argue about the location of the joint

Lebanese Army-IDF operations centers [merkazey mivtzaim] in the security zone, and other issues concerning the arrangements in this zone.

However, on the hard [qashim] issues — leaving the system based on Major Sa'd Haddad's forces as it is — progress has not yet been made. Nevertheless, it may already be said, on behalf of sources close to the talks, that Haddad will not be the cause for success or failure of the entire agreement.

If it transpires that Israel is achieving a system of reliable security arrangements in southern Lebanon, there will be a softening in the Israeli position on defining the status of Maj Haddad, who will surely be incorporated in to the system of the security arrangements.

In conclusion, it should be repeated that these Israeli-Lebanese negotiations will not yet end the Lebanese affair, as the IDF soldiers will not leave Lebanon before the Syrian soldiers and PLO.

The Israeli-Lebanese agreement is only the beginning of another long process, I was told this evening by a source who is close to the negotiations. [end recording]

Foreign Ministry Official Pessimistic

TA030632 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] The British commercial television station last night broadcast remarks by a senior Israeli Foreign Ministry official, who said that Israel is preparing for a prolonged stay in Lebanon because he believed the U.S. secretary of state had no answers for the problems in Lebanon, and because the Syrians would not pull out of there. Here is a report from London by Shim'on Tessler:

[Begin Tessler recording] Israel believes that in view of the Syrians' refusal to pull out of Lebanon, that country will in effect be divided up into three parts. One-third of it will be controlled by Israel, Syria will rule its northwestern parts, and Lebanese sovereignty will be maintained in a tiny enclave around Beirut.

A senior Israeli official in Jerusalem told the British commercial TV reporter that the U.S. secretary of state has no answer to the recurring question of whether the Syrians would withdraw from Lebanon if an arrangement is reached between Israel and the Beirut government. Israel, according to the source, believes that the answer to that question is negative, which is why preparations are currently underway for an extended Israeli stay in southern Lebanon.

According to the source in Jerusalem, if Shultz' mission fails, Israel would unilaterally withdraw to the Al-'Awwali valley and would stretch a border fence from east to west, about 40 km away from its northern border.

In the area itself, Israel will hold about half the number of soldiers it currently has in Lebanon, and a large share of the burden will be shouldered by Major Haddad and his units.

More on Bilateral Talks

TA030656 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0605 GMT 3 May 83

[Excerpt] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz departs for Beirut for talks this morning, but before leaving he will confer with Ministers Arens and Shamir. A senior source in Shultz' party said last night that in view of his talks in Jerusalem, the secretary of state believes that an agreement in Lebanon is attainable. A political source said that Israel is pleased with the way the contacts with the secretary of state are being conducted, but our political correspondent 'Oz Frankel nonetheless notes that no understanding has yet been reached on the main contentious issue.

[Begin Frankel recording] The Americans are optimistic, as are the Israelis. The question is whether this satisfaction will lead to an agreement in Lebanon, and when. And a still bigger question is how Damascus would behave, and whether it would be prepared to withdraw its forces from Lebanon. Let us point out that this optimism is nonetheless somewhat qualified. We heard the evaluation in Jerusalem this morning that despite the progress, it does not look like the U.S. secretary of state will be able to conclude an agreement by the end of this week.

Let us mention the fact that on Sunday, Shultz will participate in a foreign ministers conference in Paris, and as though trying to put the final touches on this picture, a senior source in Shultz' entourage said last night that the secretary was not dismissing the possibility of returning to the region at the end of his talks in the French capital, adding that the U.S. secretary of state has no fixed timetable. This is not his style of work, the source said.

On the Syrian issue, in view of the harsh statements emanating from Damascus, a political source in Jerusalem said last night once again that Israel is conducting negotiations with Lebanon — not with Syria — repeating the accepted concept here that it would be advisable if Shultz visited Damascus only after more substantial progress is made in the negotiations.

Regarding the talks themselves, it turns out that there is only marginal progress — if at all — on the crucial issues, primarily the status of Sa'd Haddad, but the gaps on other issues have likewise not been bridged.

A U.S. source last night mentioned five or six disputed issues, among them apparently the status of UNIFIL, the termination of the boycott, and questions related to the joint patrols and other matters. However, progress was made on a long list of other issues, more so in the sphere of formulations than in the more significant areas. This is difficult and laborious work, and the teams worked until a fairly late hour in Jerusalem last night.

Shultz May Visit Damascus

TA030920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0900 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz will go to Damascus on Friday, Beirut political sources reported. The Beirut newspaper AS-SAFIR reports that Secretary Shultz' trip to Damascus

was decided on yesterday by Syrian President al-Asad and Lebanese Foreign Minister Elie Salim. Our Arab affairs correspondent, Aharon Barne'a, reports Damascus officials this morning refused to comment on the report.

Secretary Shultz is currently leaving Jerusalem for Beirut to confer with Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil and will return to Israel this evening. After having conferred with the foreign and defense ministers in Jerusalem, Shultz said that now he has a clear picture of the matters that still need to be discussed. This was reported by our correspondent, Shim'on Schiffer.

Haddad Refuses To Change From Present Role

TA031004 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0955 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Major S'ad Haddad is currently saying that he is refusing to accept any other role in southern Lebanon than his current post.

Haddad is not for sale. We have been here 7 years; I have previously worked in close coordination and cooperation with the Israelis here, and they will not forsake their friends, Haddad said a few minutes ago during a conversation with our correspondent in the north, Menahem Horowitz.

He called on U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz to come talk to him and see his unique problems in southern Lebanon. He also said he objects to having U.S. soldiers maintain the security of southern Lebanon, adding that if they must guard themselves in Beirut, how can they maintain the security of the south?

IDF Denies Jibril Claim of POW Agreement

TA021930 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] The Jibril organization convened a news conference in Damascus yesterday. The newsmen were presented with two video films, one on the two Israeli prisoners, and the second shot during the visit of Herbert Amry, Bruno Kreisky's envoy, in the Ansar camp in southern Lebanon. The second film is about 15 minutes and shows certain detainees in the camp, including (Salih Ta'amri), one of the Fatah leaders, and the husband of the former Jordanian queen, Dina.

At the end of the screening, one of the heads of the Jibril organization, Fadl Shrur, said that the Austrian chancellor's representative has ended his mission. The negotiations over the exchange of prisoners will now be conducted by the International Red Cross [IRC]. Shrur also claimed that the conditions presented by the PLO for the exchange of prisoners were accepted by the Israeli authorities. He added that all eight Israeli prisoners — the two held by the Jibril organization and the six held by the Fatah organization — will be released in return for 4,094 Palestinian and Lebanese detainees in the Ansar camp, and about 1,000 prisoners jailed in Israel.

According to Shrur, Israel also undertook to return the archives of the Palestine Research Center which were confiscated in Beirut last September. In conclusion, he announced that the IRC representatives will meet with the two prisoners held by Jibril's organization tomorrow.

The IDF'S reaction was this:

All reports concerning the IDF prisoners held by the PLO are initiated by the PLO as part of a psychological warfare campaign. This is stated by the head of the General Headquarters Manpower Branch, Major General Moshe Nativ, and Arye Marinsky, the defense minister's adviser on special tasks, who are in charge of handling the issue of prisoners and missing soldiers. The two wanted to emphasize that there is no agreement between the PLO and Israel at this stage on the exchange of prisoners.

Austrian Official Interviewed on POWs' Condition

TA011855 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Indications have been received that two Israeli prisoners being held by Ahmad Jibril's terrorist organization are alive and well. Six other Israeli prisoners being held by the Fatah have been visited on several occasions by the International Red Cross, but Jibril has repeatedly refused until now to give any indication that the two prisoners in his hands are alive and well. But Dr Herbert Amry, a top aide of former Austrian Chancellor Bruno Kreisky who has been helping in the affair, told reported Alan Ben-'Ami that he had received letters and video messages from the two prisoners.

[Begin recording][Amry] Apart from the fact that I have received this material — videotapes and letters — I have nothing to say.

[Ben-'Ami] Can you tell us one thing, sir? Are you satisfied from the letters and videos that this material was prepared recently, that in fact it isn't something that perhaps has been prepared a few weeks ago?

[Amry] No, there is no doubt about it that it was prepared recently.

[Ben-'Ami] So you're satisfied that the prisoners are alive and well?

[Amry] Yes.

[Ben-'Ami] What is happening now with regard to negotiations in general? It seems that this is a good step forward.

[Amry] I hope so.

[Ben-'Ami] There was some concern here in Israel that following Chancellor Kreisky's decision to resign, the Austrian mediation may in fact have fallen through. It seems that this is incorrect though.

[Amry] Well, I would not call it Austrian mediation. I think that the term is not quite correct. We have been ready to give a certain help for humanitarian reasons. But I would not use the term

mediation to describe it.

[Ben-'Ami] Can I ask then if the help that you're providing -- if this is going to continue despite Chancellor Kreisky's decision on a political level?

[Amry] Well, I am sure if we are asked to continue, I think we will do it. I think it's a very natural thing for a neutral country to provide certain humanitarian help and support in such cases.

[Ben-'Ami] Can I ask you what the next move is likely to be or what you...

[Amry, interrupting] No, I think that's all. [end recording]

One Dead, Three Wounded in West Bank Riot

TA021749 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpt] An inhabitant of Biddiya village died of a heart attack, and two Arab inhabitants were wounded by soldiers' gunfire during an attempt to interfere with tractors working near the village. Our correspondent in Judaea and Samaria, Arye Gus, reports:

The first details about what occurred near Biddiya are as follows: Israeli tractors were working on land near the town, and in a short while local inhabitants organized a demonstration against their work. The demonstration turned violent, the tractor drivers summoned the army, and then the demonstrators began to stone the soldiers and the workers.

The driver of the patrol was hit in the head by a stone. Then, after acting according to procedures, the commander of the patrol and one of the soldiers opened fire, wounding two inhabitants, one in the stomach and the other in the hand.

At the same time, one of the demonstrators felt sick. Initial reports said he was related to one of the wounded. Afterwards he died. The cause of death was determined to have been a heart attack. Security forces imposed a curfew on the area to restore calm.

Health Ministers To Confer On Poisonings

TA030531 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] The health minister will meet this morning in Geneva with his counterpart from the United States to coordinate positions in view of the fact that the Arab countries have requested a debate on the recent poisonings in the territories during the annual conference of the WHO.

Our correspondent Elihu Ben-On reports that Israel may not object to raising this subject for discussion, so as to force WHO to publish the conclusions of the report written by its representatives.

U.S. Aid to Space Program Reported

TA290721 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The heads of the U.S. space agency are to help Israel in technological development for sending an Israeli communications satellite. This was stated during the night by Professor Dror Sade, the controller of the Israeli space agency, to our correspondent on science affairs Meron Tzur. Large U.S. industrial companies have also expressed willingness to provide Israel with technological aid in the same field.

Nuclear Power Plant Wanted From Europe

TA030717 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Israel is looking into the possibility of purchasing an electricity-generating nuclear power plant from a number of European countries. Only if all those countries refuse to sell the reactor to Israel as a result of political problems will Israel lay down the infrastructure for the manufacture of an Israeli-made power plant. This was stated by the director of the nuclear energy committee, 'Uzi 'Eylam.

Energy Ministry Director General Uri'el Lynn reported that the Cabinet is currently doing administrative work to look into all the conditions for the construction of a nuclear power plant.

ALGERIA

Communique With French Communists Issued

LD010747 Algiers APS in Arabic 1400 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Algiers 30 Apr (APS) — Mr Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, Politbureau member responsible for the permanent secretariat of the Central Committee and Mr Georges Marchais, secretary general of the French Communist Party, last Thursday signed a joint communique which was issued after the talks which the French Communist delegation held with Algerian officials. Here is the text [as heard] of the communique.

In the communique, the two delegations expressed satisfaction regarding the existing good relations between the [word indistinct] Algerians in Europe and the French Communist Party and expressed their solid insistance on working closely to settle the unresolved problems in order to preserve the interests and the dignity of the Algerian community in France. The two delegations, analyzing the international situation, realize that it is characterized by the escalation of imperialist aggression which tries to halt the peoples' struggle for liberation and which tries to shake their national independence, to bring to bear economic and financial pressures and to interfere increasingly in the internal affairs of the countries in order to regain the position which it lost. In so doing, it creates points of tension, escalates the arms race and endangers international peace and security.

The two parties stressed the necessity of making every effort to make the Mediterranean an area of peace and cooperation. In this regard they mentioned the close connection between security in Europe and security in the Middle East and expressed their satisfaction with the results of the conference of the socialist and progressive parties of the Mediterranean countries held in Algiers in 1982 and with the horizons it opened regarding making the Mediterranean an area of cooperation, peace, and solidarity between the peoples of the area.

The two parties strongly condemned the Israeli aggressive and expansionist policy against the Lebanese and Palestinian peoples.

The two sides renewed their support to the Palestinian peoples and affirmed anew that just and permanent peace in the Middle East requires recognizing the national rights of the Palestinian people, including its right to establish its state under the leadership of the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, and the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from all the occupied Arab territories including Jerusalem.

In the communique, the two sides reatfirmed their insistance on the independence, unity, and sovereignty of the Lebanese territories and they praised the Lebanese people's resistance to the Israeli occupation and expressed their firm belief [as heard] in the withdrawal of the Israeli forces from Lebanon according to the UN Charter.

They also affirmed their support for the struggle of the Saharan people under the leadership of the Polisario Front and they supported the resolutions and motions of the OAU and the UN which recognize the legitimate right of the Saharan people to self-determination and independence, and they recalled that implementation of this requires the initiating of direct negotiation between Morocco and the Polisario.

The French Communist Party studied with interest the Algerian initiative concerning the clarificaiton of its relations with the neighboring countries and its efforts aimed at establishing the great Arab Maghreb, and stressed that this initiative will contribute to peace in the Mediterranean.

In the communique they expressed their deep concern over the increasing aggression of the South African regime against the independent countries in the area, especially Angola, Mozambique, and Lesotho. The two sides supported the struggle of the South African people and its leadership, the African National Conference, against the apartheid regime. In addition to that they renewed their solidarity with the Namibian people under the leadership of its legitimate representative SWAPO, which confronts the conspiracies of international imperialism and which struggles for national independence.

The two sides renewed their complete and full support for the peoples of Latin America, Central America, and the Caribbean especially the peoples of El Salvador, Chile, and Nicaragua, which face rule by oligarchies, dictatorships, and fascist aggression and foreign interference.

They expressed their belief that real relaxation will only occur with the solution of the deep crises afflicting international relations and with the transformation of the economic and financial system which preserves the disparities between nations and with a more just international economic system.

Messaadia Receives Polisario Officials 2 May

LD030926 Algiers APS in Arabic 0700 GMT 3 May 83

[Text] Algiers, 3 May (APS) — Mohamed Cherif Messaadia, member of the FLN Political Bureau and the official in charge of the FLN Central Committee Permanent Secretariat, yesterday afternoon received Polisario Secretary General Mohamed Abdelaziz with whom he reviewed relations between the two revolutions.

The meeting was attended by Kamal Bouchama, member of the Permanent Secretariat, and Mohammed Ould Salek, member of the Polisario Political Bureau and foreign minister.

LIBYA

Al-Qadhdhafi Returns From African Tour 1 May

LD020935 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 2 May (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution last night concluded a working visit to Africa which included visits to the Federal Republic of Nigeria, the Popular Republic of Benin, and the Republic of Upper Volta. The brother leader was accorded great popular and official welcomes during this visit. Popular masses in these states took to the streets and squares and rushed to the airports in order to greet the leader of

the Great 1 September Revolution and to express their joy at welcoming the African revolutionary.

The leader of the revolution arrived in Ash-Shararah al-Ula from Ouagadougou, and a huge crowd was at the airport to welcome him. The masses mobbed the brother leader of the revolution while chanting revolutionary slogans that stressed their faith in and attachment to the Great 1 September Revolution.

The brother leader left Ouagadougou airport at 2030 last evening Jamahiriyah time. The leader was accorded a grand popular and official send-off at Ouagadougou airport by Major Dr Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, president of the People's Salvation Council [CSP], and Captain Thomas Sankara, prime minister.

Members of the CSP and government, the chief of staff of the armed forces, senior officers of the Upper Volta Armed Forces, the secretary and staff of the Jamahiriyah mission in Ouagadougou, the heads of political missons accredited to Upper Volta and a huge crowd participated in the leader's send-off. Immense crowds of Ouagadougou residents lined the street from the leader's residence to the airport, greeting the brother leader and chanting slogans which stressed the need for African unity, integration, and cooperation.

They also chanted slogans about the need to step up the struggle in order to counter imperialism and eliminate racism and colonialism in the dark continent.

Al-Qadhdhafi Telegram Thanks Upper Volta Leader

LD020949 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 2 May (JANA) — The brother leader of the revolution sent a telegram to Major Dr Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, president of the People's Salvation Council [CSP] of Upper Volta, on leaving Ouagadougou last night. Here is the text of the telegram:

Brother President Jean-Baptiste, it pleases me while leaving your friendly country to voice my thanks and gratitude for the splendid fraternal welcome accorded to us by Your Excellency and also by members of the CSP and Government of Upper Volta. The splendid popular welcome given to us by the friendly people of Upper Volta stressed the depth of ties between our two African peoples.

Brother president, the African and international issues we discussed required coordination between our two countries so that they will be able to perform their role in securing the progress of Africa and the triumph of its causes of liberation, and to affirm their steadfastness in the face of the conspiracies of imperialism, Zionism, and reaction.

Brother President, finally I express my gratitude for the results achieved by the delegations of our two countries, which are likely to bring about integration and cooperation between our two countries in various domains.

Forward, the struggle continues.

JANA Warns of Goals of Shultz Mideast Trip

LD022123 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 1730 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Tripoli, 2 May (JANA) — American Secretary of State Shultz continues his shuttle visit in the region on the pretext of arranging the Zionist forces' withdrawal from Lebanon, in addition to several other issues of interest to the American Administration and the Zionist enemy that are also to be tackled on this tour, according to the statement the American secretary of state himself made during his recent visit to Cairo. American secretary of State Shultz' shuttle trips in the Arab region should be viewed not from the angle of whether they fail or succeed, but from the logic of the actual American role, which is partial to the Zionist enemy, and that of the strategic alliance between the American Administration and the Zionists, which is basically devoted to striking at the Arab nation, liquidating the Palestinian people, and torpedoing their central cause.

Therefore, we should realize that it was the American Administration that drafted, planned, and executed the capitulatory Camp David agreement. It was also this administration that concluded the strategic agreement with the Zionist enemy, who began by invading Lebanon, escalating the construction of Zionist settlements, forcing the Palestinians to vacate the Lebanese arena, besieging and exerting pressure on Syria, and committing massacres of the inhabitants of the Sabra and Shatila camps.

Accordingly, the Reagan administration has no right to assume or talk about any mediation or about a neutral role in the region, because it is the one that gives the order for aggression on the Arab nation and arms the Zionist enemy to the teeth with American war machines. This administration is now working to complete the plot that it was unable to implement by the force of arms, in order to implement a policy in the region that is misleading and deceitful towards the Arabs.

This is why it established a reactionary axis in the region and is now making a move to secure bases and facilities for the Rapid Deployment Force so that it can support Zionist aggression. Reagan's initiative appears to be a new version of the American onslaught devoted to the interest of the Zionist enemy. The essence of this initiative is aimed at definitely annihilating the Palestinian people. The planning for this appears in the flagrant attack that Reagan himself is leading by refusing to recognize the PLO and inciting others to withdraw their recognition of this organization.

This military and morale disarmament of the Palestinian revolution detachments cannot be separated from all that the American Administration is planning in order to foil the Arab causes and directions and abuse their pan-Arab aspirations. After all this, how can one accept such shuttle trips by the American secretary of state? What mentality can believe in what this secretary is carrying in his pouch during such trips?

Shultz' visit to the region is one link in the conspiracy to perpetuate the Zionist presence in Lebanon, review the Zionist plans to strike at Syria, and then drive the Zionist death wagon to other parts of the Arab homeland. We consider that this visit might be the final link in the American plan. We stress that America is

the Arab nation's No. 1 enemy, and we must warn that any attempt to make some people follow America would lead to submission and subservience.

MAURITANIA

Haydala Receives Guinean Foreign Minister

AB292012 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Lieutenant Colonel Mohamed Khouna Ould Haydala, the chairman of the Military Council for National Salvation (CMSN), and head of state, received yesterday evening His Excellency El Hadj Abdoulaye Toure, the Guinean minister of foreign affairs, who arrived yesterday afternoon in Nouakchott. At the end of the audience, the Guinean minister disclosed the contents of the talks he held with the CMSN chairman and head of state.

[Begin recording] [Toure] I had the privilege of delivering to the president a written message from his brother and friend, President Ahmed Sekou Toure, on the forthcoming meeting of ECOWAS, of which Mauritania is an active founding member. We consider that Mauritania's participation could be very useful for our entire community in order to resolve the various economic, political, and social problems which face our community. The next meeting is scheduled to take place in Conakry, and we have been assured by his excellency the president of the active participation of the Islamic Republic of Mauritania.

[Question] Your Excellency, could we have an idea of the problems facing the community?

[Answer] The problems are first and foremost economic problems because our community is an economic community for West Africa. The recession which has hit the whole world and has affected international relations in particular concern Africa, especially West Africa. Of course, we have had certain subregional problems which we can raise and resolve once and for all. [Words indistinct] draw up a development program of interest to all member countries, for we consider ECOWAS as the starting point of a common market for Africa. [end recording]

Note that the audience was held in the presence of Lieutenant Colonel Ahmedou Abdallah, acting minister of foreign affairs and cooperation.

MOROCCO

Foreign Minister Boucetta Returns From Spain

LD021242 Rabat MAP in English 1202 GMT 2 May 83

can state minister of foreign affairs, returned home on Saturday coming from Madrid where he had been on a one day visit.

In statement he made upon arrival, Mr Boucetta said his visit to Spain was part of regular consultations the two countries deem it necessary to have.

He said his talks had covered recent developments in the Maghreb region, the situation in the Mediterranean and the Middle East, and bilateral questions.

Mr Boucetta was received by King Juan Carlos of Spain, premier Philipe Gonzalez and Foreign Minister Fernando Moran.

In a press conference he held on Saturday, Mr Boucetta spoke of the coming visit of King Hassan II to Spain, the question of Ceuta and Melilla (two northern Moroccan towns still under Spanish control), the Sahara question and possible Moroccan-Spanish military manoeuvres.

He said King Hassan II'S visit was still being studied and could be decided upon after Mr Boucetta reported on his visit to Spain.

Concerning Ceuta and Melilla, the Moroccan minister said it was not raised during this visit. "It is not a problem we raise every time because it is useless to reiterate each country's stance", he said.

Concerning Moroccan-Spanish military manoeuvres, Mr Boucetta said this could be easily done since "our relations call for joint drillings with Spain. We see no inconvenience in doing it".

SUDAN

Numayri Elected President by Large Percentage

JN021556 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1435 GMT 2 May 83

[Excerpt] Khartoum, 2 May (SUNA) — 'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib, first vice president and chairman of the plebiscite committee, stated today that Citizen Field Marshal Ja'far Muhammad Numayri obtained 99.6 percent of the votes and that the Sudanese people have chosen President leader Ja'far Muhammad Numayri as president of the Democratic Republic of the Sudan. He added that President Numayri will be sworn in at the People's Assembly on 24 May.

'Umar Muhammad at-Tayyib said this in a statement broadcast by the media on the results of the plebiscite which was held in Sudan between 12-25 April.

President Numayri Addresses Nation on May Day

JN012003 Khartoum SUNA in English 1908 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Port Sudan, Eastern Sudan, 1 May, (SUNA) — President of the Republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri today addressed the Sudanese nation from this port on the occasion of May Day.

In his address Numayri spoke about the comprehensive political programme and said the programme would achieve its aims and confirm its principles through joint work between the worker and the government.

Numayri referred to the obstacles and challenges which faced the progress of the revolution since its conception. He attributed

those challenges to international economic changes and world economic recession.

Numayri said the Federation of Sudanese Workers Trade Unions was the first to establish a cooperative corporation for workers. He said the expected role of the corporation was to preserve prices, remove mediators, and combat avarice .

In his address the president made it clear that the coincidence of May revolution with Labour Day has not occurred accidentally.

He voiced that the international Labour Day celebrated here because Sudanese workers were authentic part of this international body.

The president said that the workers revolution outbursted by the labourers is aimed at realizing its greater victory which is the unification of the nation and following of building, modernization and development path.

Numayri said May revolution had accomplished its achievements through Sudanese effort and Sudanese workers in the first place. He said that technical and professional education would be the dominant during the third term of presidency mandate and added that the Armed Forces would be an effective partner in establishing the professional training centres.

Referring to the selection of Port Sudan as a forum for the workers celebrations the President pointed that this must be taken as a signal for the achievement of the revolution the regional governing. [sentence as received]

Numayri appealed to the workers that the responsibility of developing Port Sudan lies on their shoulders. He called on the workers to take their role in developing the port and dislodging its harbours [as received] halt goods accumulation, activate the movement of imports and exports.

He added Port Sudan must be the solid ground for blooming industry hinged on worker's efforts. He added the worker must exert more effort in order to realize welfare for Port Sudan and the whole Sudan.

Voicing concern over the Federation of Sudanese Trade Unions, the president branded the workers' role in integration process as positive. The workers represent the public basis for integration, he added.

The president also hailed the contribution of the Sudanese labour movement in Arab, African and international forums. He cited that these moves would be taken as signal for the movement of the revolution and its institutions in the regional and international arenas.

Finally Numayri congratulated the workers and the whole people saying May Day is the day of the whole Sudan.

9,000 Chadian Refugees To Be Repatriated

LD281651 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1930 GMT 27 Apr 83

[Excerpt] The president of the republic, Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, this afternoon received in his office at the Council of Ministers M. Ahmad 'Abd ar-Rahman Muhammad, minister of internal affairs.

The minister said in a press statement after the meeting that the work of the passport, immigration, and nationality department was reviewed. He added that the leader-president directed that studies be carried out with a view to improving the efficiency of the department and modernizing its equipment.

He said he briefed President Numayri on the steps taken concerning the ceremony to be held on 2 May in Al-Junaynah to mark the repatriation of nearly 9,000 Chadian refugees. The governor of the Chadian town of Abeche and a representative of the UNHCR [UN Office of High Commissioner for Refugees] will participate in the ceremony.

Briefs:

NEW UAE AMBASSADOR — KHARTOUM, 1 May (SUNA) — President Ja'far Muhammad Numayri yesterday morning received the credentials of 'Ubayd Salim Sa'id az-Zu'abi, the new UAE ambassador to Sudan. [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1005 GMT 1 May 83 JN]

ETHIOPIA

Additional Government Appointments Announced

EA030856 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] A spokesman for the Provisional Military Administrative Council announced this evening that the provisional military government has appointed the following 11 government officials:

Comrade (Mersie Ejigu), COPWE Central Committee alternate member and head of the general planning section of the national revolutionary development campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, as a deputy minister;

Comrade (Taye Guleta) as commissioner of higher education;

Comrade (Masresha Gugsa) as commissioner of the civil service;

Comrade (Alem Alazar) as commissioner of the National Water Resources Commission;

Comrade (Aklilu Afewer), head of the production section of the national revolutionary production campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, as a commissioner;

Comrade (Tadese Kidane Mariam), head of the construction and physical planning section of the national revolutionary campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, as a commissioner;

Comrade (Dawit Getache), head of the social and trade section of the national revolutionary campaign and Central Planning Supreme Council, as a commissioner;

Comrade (Lema Argaw) as auditor general;

Comrade (Yemane Araya) as permanent secretary in the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs;

Comrade (Fanfaye Biftu), head of economic affairs in the office of the Council of Ministers, as a permanent secretary; and

Comrade Brigadier General Malatu Negash, COPWE Central Committee member, secretary general of the Council of Public and National Security.

KENYA

Foreign Minister Returns From France

EA021205 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] A 1-week conference on Namibia held in Paris completely rejected any link between the independence of Namibia and the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

Speaking at the Jomo Kenyatta International Airport on arrival from Paris yesterday, the minister for foreign affairs, Dr Robert Ouko, pointed out that the conference has decided to take the issue of Namibia to the UN Security Council, which will be convened next month. He said the issue would be taken to the UN Security Council because of racist South Africa's complications for Namibian independence, which had been programmed under UN resolutions several years back.

Dr Ouko further said the contact group on Namibia still had a role to play provided it did not link Namibian independence with the presence of Cuban troops in Angola.

During his stay in Paris, Dr Ouko met his French counterpart, Mr Claude Cheysson, and informed him that President Moi was pleased with the French attitude towards African issues and especially the Chad problem.

TANZANIA

Nyerere Criticizes Illicit Economic Practices

EA012202 Dar es Salaam Domestic Service in Swahili 0855 GMT 1 May 83

[President Nyerere's May Day address at Jamhuri Stadium, Morogoro — live]

[Excerpts] In 1971, when we nationalized housing, the Swahilis were happy. They appreciated the move more than they did in 1967, because the Swahilis also owned houses, for the houses we took over did not belong to Europeans — the Europeans did not own houses — they belonged to Indians, who owned the majority of them, while the Swahilis only owned some. Thus, they were pleased with this move and appreciated its significance, although they did not fully appreciate it until recently.

A short while ago, we thought the time had come to reacquaint ourselves with the principles of the Arusha declaration: that we are building a socialist country here, and that everyone is expected to work, because we live by working and not by having others work for us. We said that everyone, especially the big fellows who live cunningly by exploiting others, the capitalists who have overstepped their role — for we do allow a legitimate type of capitalism, but some have crossed the bounds set by law — so we said: Let us take action against them. We started this recently, and the Swahilis rejoiced, and they understood what this meant. Swahilis: This time you have understood that capitalism has no single color. Those who are being netted at present, those evil saboteurs of the country's economy, have no single color. They are people of all colors, and the vast majority are Swahili. The largest group of all are the Swahilis, and there are various categories.

There are two main groups: One includes those who hurt us through foreign exchange dealings. I have already talked about this, and there is no need to repeat myself. There are also saboteurs of our economy who use goods. They are in two groups: The first are real racketeers, they are mean capitalists; they even violate the capitalist code. They buy goods, as capitalists always do, at a cheap price and sell at a high price. This is their way of operating and their belief. So, they buy at a low price set by the government and then we allow them to sell at a higher price. This is what normally happens in business, and they are allowed a

profit margin. But they reject our high price, believing this to be inadequate, and hoard goods to sell at an exhorbitant price they set themselves. So their aim is to make money, in fact, much more than permitted by the system set out by the country. So this is a very uncivilized person [laughter and applause] because we expected him to get his profit, and if he feels that this is inadquate, then he should make his grievances known. The country will look into this, and, if it becomes evident that the profit margin permitted by law is insufficient, he will be allowed an increase, just as workers present their grievances on salaries and we increase their salaries. But workers do not damage factories and take salaries on their own initiative like madmen. [applause]

The second group is extremely evil, worse than the first. Some people buy goods solely to make money — this is the first type. The second type does not need money; his aim is merely sabotage, and he wants to create chaos. He also wants to cause artificial shortages, so he buys goods, hoes, for example: He knows that hoes are in demand, and that there is a shortage of them. So, as soon as he hears that hoes are available, he gets hold of them; he buys the lot and hoards them somewhere, forgetting them. He does not sell them.

Or there may be a shortage of cooking oil. He hears it is available and that people are grumbling. He hears about 2,000 drums or tins. If he can, he will buy the lot. He does not want to sell them; he merely seeks to hoard them. He can even smuggle them out of the country to some other place. His motive is to sabotage the country's policy and in the process he undermines the government itself. He wants the people to suffer shortages of hoes, oil, plows drawn by oxen, soap or diesel. He hoards so that the people will complain. His aim is not to get money.

We have uncovered some of these people in Tanzania. This is very surprising. Some of them are our own children, others are our uncles and others our aunties. Some of them are Swahili. But how can these Swahilis get the money to merely buy goods and keep them? Who gave these people this money? I would have expected to see the Swahili in the first group of racketeers. He will buy at a cheap price and sell at a high one, but how can the Swahili buy goods worth a lot of money, for the sake of keeping them so that people will complain? This is his work and, once he does it, he is finished.

Thus, you wonder whether somebody is using him. You may find the first one working for himself, but who is this second person working for? Where did he get the money? We have netted people with goods they had for several years. They had been there without being sold, and it was as if the owner had forgotten them. Swahilis were involved in this racket.

We are beginning to have capitalists in our midst; the names of our uncles and theirs are the same — Kambarage, Marwa, Chacha, Maganga and so on. This is good in that it allows us to better understand the meaning of capitalism. We used to have a radio program: "Capitalism Is Savagery." We think this is a joke. Capitalism is a mysterious disease. It is a disease of greed and a disease that has no end.

In Tanzania we aim to eradicate poverty, but, my brothers, you cannot eradicate poverty without removing wealth. You cannot wipe out poverty without wiping out wealth. I am not saying you should wipe out property as property eradicates poverty, but if you have property that you use to build wealth and become wealthy, then you will never eradicate poverty.

The greed for wealth has no limit: Some would even sell their own mother. If you allow people to enrich themselves by acquiring wealth, then you should realize that you are on a course toward disaster. There will be no limit to this acquisition. Such people are ready to hoard goods, to hoard medicine so that people will die. There are such Tanzanians — black Tanzanians who have hoarded medicine, who have stolen, hoarded or even sold medicine outside Tanzania so that our children may die, so long as they acquire wealth. You cannot wipe out poverty in the country if you allow the rich to do as they please. I was surprised when the names of the racketeers were announced and when the pictures appeared of people, our brothers, who are sabotaging the economy. Some of them are our children, whom we educated. We educated them with the poor people's money. We gave them a good education and very good jobs in the management of our country's economy. Such youths have infected themselves with the disease of greed, stealing our country's wealth and sabotaging it. I call on the youth, and this is a country of youths, because it is not good for young people to want wealth, nor is it good for young people to seek pride in wealth, for the life of such a young person will be worthless. A young person should seek an opportunity to serve. A young person should not seek to be paid by his country, especially after he is educated. They should look for opportunities to serve their country.

UGANDA

Obote Promises State Aid for Several Sectors

EA021200 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 1 May 83

[Excerpt] Several countries in the world, including Uganda, have staged Labor Day parades. In Uganda, Soroti town was the main venue of the celebrations in which peasants, workers, students and soldiers took part. President Milton Obote presided over the celebrations and addressed the nation.

He said that the government has considerably increased its contribution in maintaining pupils in schools and relieving parents of the burden of exorbitant school fees. He also said that in some cases the government would pay up to 75 percent of the maintenance costs. The president, however, warned that this increase may not go very far from stopping certain exorbitant fees. He said that details of the maintenance increases would be published and announced in due course.

Dr Obote also announced that the minimum wages review commission will be appointed soon by the government. He noted that the minimum wage advisory board's recommendation was superseded by higher salary increase by the government. He also said that the government was studying the government salary review report and would act upon it.

The president announced that the government has created a

price-monitoring and control unit. The government, he said, is waiting for the unit's recommendations. Dr Obote urged the workers to realize that when they demanded higher wages they should understand the consequences in putting prices up.

He also asked the people of Uganda not to ask the government to fix prices as it would create shortages and magendo [illicit trade]. He assured the nation that if production increases, prices would fall. He stressed government policy of creating job opportunities. The president asked the workers to be proud of their country and called on them to work hard so as to produce more for the country. He assured the workers unions would have their freedom but cautioned them against undermining others.

In reply to NOTUS [National Organization of Trade Unions] request to affiliate with other international bodies, Dr Obote said the government has no objection so long as those organizations were approved by the Uganda Government and the OATUU [Organization of African Trade Union Unity].

Talking about cattle raiding, Dr Obote appealed to the people of Kotido and Moroto districts to live peacefully by solving their grievances against neighboring districts through the laws of Uganda. He regretted that although the Karamojong leaders had assured him that they would surrender their guns, they had not done so.

The president reported that the security drive against bandits had progressed so much that only isolated incidents are now being reported. The president pointed out that the government is determined to rid Uganda of bandits. Dr Obote thanked the people of Soroti not only for voting UPC [United Peoples Congress] but also for ensuring peace in their area. He also reported the success the government had recorded in all sectors since it was elected. Praising the dignity of labor, Dr Obote appealed to educationists to brief the youth about the glory of labor. He urged them to stop using labor as a punishment.

BENIN

Algerian Prime Minister Meets Press, Departs

AB291033 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Excerpts] His Excellency Mohamed Ben Ahmed Abdelghani, prime minister of the Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria, left Cotonou this afternoon at the end of a 1-day official visit. During his stay, the Algerian prime minister held talks with party and government officials on issues of common interest including the international political situation as well as the political situation in the Maghreb, in central and southern Africa, in the Middle East, and in Latin America.

On the basis of the information given it, the Beninese side expressed happiness about Algeria's initiatives directed toward the neighboring states to ensure the establishment of peace and detente in the subregion while taking into account the legitimate aspirations of the Saharan people to independence and sovereignty. In this regard, an urgent appeal was made to the two conflicting parties to open direct negotiations which could lead to a rapid settlement.

Concerning bilateral cooperation, the two parties reaffirmed their readiness to do everything to ensure the positive and harmonious development of their cooperation and to make it more dynamic and fruitful.

It should be stressed that during his stay in Benin, the Algerian prime minister was received in audience twice by President Mathieu Kerekou, to whom he delivered a personal message from his brother and friend, President Chadli Bendjedid. Ahmed Abdelghani this morning visited the (Titesome) mineral water factory, a fruit of the Beninese-Algerian cooperation.

Shortly before his departure from the independent African country of Benin, the Algerian prime minister answered questions by Sylvestre Zomawou to whom he first explained the points of the discussions he had yesterday and today with the head of state, President Mathieu Kerekou.

[Begin recording] [Abdelghani] Both yesterday and today, we discussed all issues of common interest concerning Africa, the Saharan problem and those of Namibia and South Africa, as well as the repeated South African acts of aggression against the frontline states, particularly Angola and Mozambique. We also discussed other current issues such as the problems of the OAU [words indistinct] which will hold a meeting in Addis Ababa on 6 June. We also talked about the Palestinian problem and the Palestinian people's right to self-determination [words indistinct]. In addition, we devoted a large part of our discussions to the relations between our two countries and the ways and means of developing the (?fruitful) cooperation existing between us.

[Question] According to the international press, your current visit to several African countries falls within the context of an offensive launched by the Algerian Government to ensure the participation of the African heads of state in the forthcoming OAU summit meeting. Is this true?

[Answer] The purpose of my mission is to exchange views with the authorities of the countries visited [words indistinct]. I received no mandate from Algeria to deal with a matter which has already been settled by a group of 12 heads of state of the OAU, our continental organization: that is, a summit of the OAU should be held in Addis Ababa on 6 June.

[Question] What is your hope for this forthcoming summit meeting of our continental organization which is now experiencing difficulties due to the problems of the SDAR and Chad?

[Answer] I do not think that our organization's current difficulties are caused by the Saharan or Chadian question. They are caused by certain people behind the scenes who are pulling strings in order to weaken or even destroy the OAU.

[Question] There has been increasing talk about the possibility of appointing an interim OAU chairman pending the organization's 20th summit conference. What do you think about this proposal and the (?regulations) governing our continental organization?

[Answer] There are a number of texts governing our organization and the heads of state of the organization have been summoned to a meeting in order precisely to discuss this question.

[Question] Could you tell us about the recent development of relations between the Maghreb countries and particularly Algeria and Morocco?

[Answer] Development in the Maghreb is now marked by the desire for peace and good-neighborliness which has always animated Algeria in its relations with its neighbors. Concerning the three countries in the far north — Tunisia, Algeria, and Morocco — traditional ties have always existed between them and these (?should be strengthened). These are historic ties created by a common past struggle against colonialism as well as a common language [words indistinct].

The only stumbling block is the Saharan problem, this decolonization problem which has continued to hinder this homogeneous entity from coming together in the best conditions. It is precisely Algeria's desire to try to eliminate these difficulties. [Words indistinct] to try to harmonize the view points in order to enable two brotherly countries and peoples to come closer again, to hold discussions, and to live together in harmony instead of living in disagreement and in an atmosphere of war. [end recording]

GHANA

Botchwey Foresees Fiscal Collapse if Budget Fails

AB300959 Paris AFP in English 0753 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Accra, April 30 (AFP) — Ghana will face "total economic collapse within six months" if the proposed 1983-84 budget is withdrawn on grounds of excessive hardship, as critics are demanding, Finance and Economic Planning Minister Kwesi Botchwey warned here. He told a meeting of the private road transport union that it was "the necessary medium to revitalize

the economy." But he admitted errors might have been made and said the government had begun consultations to identify them.

Meanwhile, Britain's Standard Chartered Bank has agreed to loan the Bank of Ghana 100 million dollars to help fund an emergency import program for agriculture and key industrial sectors. Part of it would go to import food to relieve severe current shortages, the government announced.

Cuban Troop-Namibian Settlement Link Condemned

AB291400 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Ghana has condemned the linkage of the presence of Cuban troops in Angola to the independence issue of Namibia. Such a linkage makes a mockery of Angola's sovereignty and security. Speaking at the international conference on Namibia currently taking place in Paris, Ghana's ambassador to France, Mr Joseph Cleland, called on the Contact Group — made up of the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, and Canada — to intensify their efforts to speed up negotiations for the independence of the territory. He called for solidarity with the frontline states and appealed for the immediate and unconditional implementation of the Security Council resolution on Namibia's independence.

'First' Troop Contingent Leaves for Lebanon

AB301422 Accra Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] A contingent of 163 Ghanaian troops led by Major (Osei Wusu) has flown to Beirut to take part in the UN peace-keeping program. They form the first of five batches to be flown by Ghana Airways. Ghana Airways won the UN contract to airlift the Ghana troops to the Middle East after bidding with other major airlines and it is the first major contract since the acquisition of Ghana's own DC-10 aircraft last month. In all, Ghana Airways will carry 749 troops to Lebanon and return 692 Ghanaian soldiers who have completed their turn of duty with UNIFIL.

IVORY COAST

PRC Deputy Foreign Minister Arrives 1 May

AB020935 Abidjan Domestic Service in French 0745 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Two months after the establishment of diplomatic relations between the PRC and Ivory Coast, a top Chinese official is currently visiting the country. He is Gong Dafei, the deputy minister of foreign affairs, who arrived in Abidjan yesterday evening. He was welcomed on arrival by Foreign Minister Simeon Ake, who visited Beijing last February. Before reboarding a plane for Yamoussoukro, the capital, the Chinese deputy minister of foreign affairs gave the objective of his visit to this country. He expressed his joy at being in the Ivory Coast to Eugene Koffi.

[Begin Gong recording in Mandarin fading into French translation] It is a great pleasure for me to be the first representative of the PRC to come to this country after the establishment of diplomatic relations between our two countries. In fact, diplomatic relations between us were established this year but in reality, friendly relations have existed for a long time. We have for a long time heard that Ivory Coast, under the guidance of its president, has achieved great success in all fields in the building of the country. Today we are here to see and evaluate ourselves the achievements of your country and to learn from you — I believe this is very important — in order to develop the friendship and cooperation relations between our two countries. And also as fellow Third World countries, we must draw inspiration from each other. [end recording]

12-Day Teachers Strike Appears To Falter

AB291643 Paris AFP in English 1630 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Abidjan, April 29 (AFP) — Striking secondary school and higher education teachers and doctors in Ivory Coast appeared to falter today following yesterday's move by President Felix Houphouet-Boigny to compel them to work. The president had given them three days to obey his order or be sacked.

While the situation in Abidjan's university and major colleges was quiet, work appeared to be more or less normal at the university hospital, although unconfirmed sources said about 80 per cent of doctors were absent.

The situation was difficult to gauge because of the large number of foreign workers in the affected sectors who have not been involved in the strike movement, which began some 12 days ago. Observers said many strikers seemed to have ceded to the authorities and returned to work, having been surprised by the president's firmness.

The teachers had been demanding the restoration of free housing abolished as part of economic austerity measures in the west African state, while the doctors who joined the movement later called for better working conditions.

In a speech yesterday to delegates of the country's sole legal party, who met to discuss the crisis, Mr Houphouet-Boigny stressed that Ivory Coast's prosperity was due to its farmers who, he said, "never go on strike".

Opposition Group Issues Statement

AB291649 Paris AFP in French 1132 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Paris, 29 Apr (AFP) — The CIMAP (Ivorian Movement for Political Action, an Ivorian socialist party opposed to the ruling party) has called for "the immediate release of all persons arrested" following the teachers' strike action in the Ivory Coast.

In a communique published on friday in paris, CIMAP condemns President Houphouet-Boigny's regime which, according to it, is incapable of solving the economic, political, and social problems of the country, and which resorts to repression — the arrest of workers and the abolition of teachers unions — as the only way out of its problems, it concludes.

LIBERIA

Matthews, Dan Reportedly Resign Posts

AB292153 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Excerpt] There are unconfirmed reports in Monrovia that Mr G. Bacchus Matthews, director general of the Cabinet, has resigned. It is also believed that Mr Marcus Dan has resigned. Mr Dan is deputy managing director of the National Housing Authority.

Mr Dan and Mr Matthews were members of the now-defunct People's Progressive Party. When ELTV news contacted Mr Matthews, he would only said: "Let us not all overemphasise this thing." He referred the news team to the minister of state, John Ramsey. At the executive mansion, Minister Ramsey would only say he received a letter from Mr Matthews directly addressed to the head of state who is presently in Grand Gedeh County. Mr Ramsey said a letter has also come from the National Housing Authority for the head of state but he did not know whether it was from Marcus Dan.

If the stories are confirmed, Bacchus Matthews and Marcus Dan will be the first officials of government to respond to the 30 April deadline given by the head of state.

Quiah Resigns To Meet Political Activity Ban

AB021003 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 0655 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Head of state Commander in Chief [CIC] Samuel Doe has cautioned potential politicians resigning now to observe the ban on political activites and govern themselves accordingly. According to LINA [LIBERIA NEWS AGENCY], CIC Doe was reacting to the resignation of the managing director of the National Housing Authority, Oscar J. Quiah. The head of state has meanwhile accepted the resignation of Mr Quiah. However, the acceptance is conditioned pending an audit of the National Housing Authority during Mr Quiah's tenure. LINA said the auditor general has been directed to proceed immediately with the said audit. Mr Quiah is the third government official whose resignation has been accepted by the head of state.

CIC Doe asked: Are these the only three potential politicians in the country? Responding to his own question, CIC Doe said: No, I think that those who did not resign were telling to wait for the appropriate time. Head of state Doe observed that with only three persons resigning, the council is sufficiently convinced that the majority of government officials and public corporation executives were willing to work for the promotion of the goals and objectives of the PRC [People's Redemption Council] government.

Dr Doe said he believes there were hundreds of other citizens who envision a political future but were not anxious to resign from the government at this time. The CIC expressed the feeling that as the process of civilian rule gains momentum such dedicated, patient and willing individuals will have the opportunity to run for elective positions when the ban is lifted.

Meanwhile, in his letter to Mr Quiah, CIC Doe said: While accepting your resignation in principle, I wish to indicate that the General Auditing Office has been authorized to audit the National Housing Authority during your tenure as managing director.

In his letter of resignation, Mr Quiah assured head of state Doe of his continued loyalty and support for the government of the PRC. Mr Quiah resigned on Saturday to meet the 30 April deadline set by the PRC for government officials wishing to participate in political activities to resign. Altogether, three government officials have now resigned. They are G. Bacchus Matthews, Marcus Dan and Oscar J. Quiah.

PRC Adviser Suspended of All Responsibilities

AB282122 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 1900 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] The co-chairman of the PRC [People's Redemption Council] and vice head of state, Major General J. Nicholas Podier, today said that the suspension of Lieutenant Colonel (Gba Gballa), PRC adviser on political and economic affairs, concerns all his official responsibilities in government. Gen Podier made the clarifications today at the Capital Building (?where) he received a letter from Col (Gba Gballa) inquiring about the management of the National Rent Control Commission and the Board of Directors of the Monrovia (?Port) Authority (MPA). Col (Gballa) was a chairman of the National Rent Control Commission and of the Board of Directors of the MPA respectively.

The Capital Building release issued in Monrovia today disclosed that in a letter to the PRC, adviser (Gballa) said it was essential to (?give) clarifications in order to notify the employees of the two organizations.

Meanwhile, Vice Head of State Podier today instructed Major Thomas (Kah A. Jangabai), PRC adviser on political and foreign affairs, to manage the affairs of the National Rent Commission. Lt Col (Gba N. Gballa) was suspended yesterday by the PRC for administrative reasons.

MALI

SDAR President Leaves Bamako, Comments on OAU

AB021305 Paris AFP in French 0752 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Bamako, 2 May (AFP) — SDAR President Mohamed Abdelaziz stated on Sunday in Bamako that "when Morocco shows its willingness (...), we (the Saharan people) are ready to negotiate with it. Otherwise, the war will continue and our people will obtain their inalienable rights by force."

Mr Abdelaziz, who left Bamako Sunday afternoon after a 1-day visit to Mali, said "the only solution to the Western Sahara problem is: opening negotiations between the SDAR and Morocco." He added that the SDAR "has decided to attend all OAU summits" for which we "reiterate our support as an instrument of uniting the whole of Africa."

According to official sources in Mali, Abdelaziz held talks with General Moussa Traore, Malian president, on the search for a "solution to the Western Sahara and on the situation in this territory."

NIGER

French Foreign Affairs Official Arrives 2 May

AB021021 Paris AFP in French 0759 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Niamey, 2 May (AFP) — Christian Nucci, French minister delegate to the Ministry of External Relations for Cooperation, arrived in Niamey on Monday morning for a 2-day visit to Niger, during which he will preside over the closing session of the France-Niger joint commission.

Mr Nucci was welcomed on arrival by Daouda Diallo, Niger's minister of foreign affairs and cooperation; Maurice Courage, French ambassador to Niger; and Pierre Ricard, head of the French aid and cooperation mission.

Mr Nucci will be received by Niger President Seyni Kountche on Tuesday morning. Before this audience, he will hold talks with the prime minister; Mamane Oumarou, minister for planning; Annou Mahamane, minister of commerce and transport; and Mr Diallo.

The French minister leaves Niamey on Tuesday afternoon for Ouagadougou (Upper Volta).

NIGERIA

Shagari Asks Union Support of Ethical Change

AB020931 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0600 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Nigerian labor unions have been urged to join in the current national ethical reorientation campaign. President Shehu Shagari made the call in a message to this year's May Day rally organized by the Nigerian Labor Congress in Lagos yesterday. He contended that no development plan, however well-intentioned, could bring about a prosperous nation in an atmosphere of moral decadence.

President Shehu Shagari said it was the collective responsibility of all Nigerians to arrest the moral drift of the nation. He attributed the present economic recession in the country that brought some hardship to the people to a gloabal phenomenon. The president expressed confidence that the problems were temporary, adding that the country had the capacity to overcome them soon if all Nigerians worked forcibly, deligently, and honestly. He assured that some of the measures introduced to stabilize the economy would be relaxed as soon as the situation improved.

President Shagari said some of the measures introduced by his administration to improve the welfare of workers include the introduction of the national minimum wage, the reintroduction of vehicle allowances, and other associated allowances. He further stated that his administration broadened the scope of the operations of the Federal Mortgage Bank loans to enable workers to own houses through a liberalized service scheme.

Today has been declared a public holiday throughout the federation to observe the May Day celebrations. Meanwhile, the Nigerian Ports Authority says that all ports under its control would be closed to business today in observance of the May Day. A statement from the authority, however, says that normal operations will begin tomorrow.

UPPER VOLTA

Reportage on Al-Qadhdhafi Visit to Ouagadougou

30 April Arrival

AB010805 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] The Libyan leader, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, arrived in Ouagadougou yesterday evening after visiting Nigeria and Benin. This visit is to strengthen the relations between our country and Libya [word indistinct] these past months. The arrival of the Libyan [word indistinct] in our capital in the wake of the 7 November 1982 movement and the recent visit of our prime minister, Thomas Sankara, to Libya testify to this.

The Libyan leader was welcomed on arrival yesterday by the head of state, Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo, surrounded by the prime minister, Captain Thomas Sankara, and many high officials [words indistinct]. A dinner, during which toasts were exchanged, was given in his honor by the head of state at the presidential palace later in the evening.

Today's program includes a working session of the two delegations and private talks between the two heads of state.

Tripoli Report

LD010048 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] The brother leader of the revolution arrived yesterday evening in Ouagadougou on a working visit to the Republic of Upper Volta. An unprecedented popular and official welcome was accorded the brother leader. The president of the CSP [People's Salvation Council] and head of state, Major Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and Captain Thomas Sankara, leader of the military uprising in Upper Volta, headed those who welcomed the brother leader when he arrived at Ouagadougou Airport.

A delegation representing the CSP was headed by Major (Lingatana), secretary general of the Permanent Secretariat of the council; Colonel (Gabriel), chief of the general staff; and Foreign Minister Michel Kafando. Members of the government and heads of the diplomatic missions in the Republic of Upper Volta as well as the secretary and members of the Jamahiriyah mission in Upper Volta also took part in welcoming the brother leader and the delegation accompanying him.

Huge crowds rushed to the airport in order to welcome the leader, hailing the great Al-Fatih and liberator of Africa, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. The masses of the capital, Ouagadougou, and the towns near it merged in a great popular procession extending from the airport perimeter to the brother leader's place of residence. They (?carried placards) hailing the hero of the black continent and shouted: "Al-Qadhdhafi the African revolutionary! Down with imperialism! Long live free and independent Africa! Death to the imperialists and the racists and all the enemies of Africa!"

Al-Qadhdhafi's Dinner Speech

LD011746 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Ouagadougou, 1 May (JANA) — Brother Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, stressed that the issue of revolution is one undivided issue and that the issue of freedom is one undivided issue. He stated that defending the people of Upper Volta is self-defense for the Libyan Arab people, because we are the sons of one continent, and the issue of the African Continent is one undivided issue. The enemy of Africa is a joint issue, and the whole world knows the tragedy that colonialism has brought into the African Continent and the contempt with which it treated the Africans.

In his speech at the dinner organized by the president of the People's Salvation Council [CSP], he said Africans are demanding revenge against colonialism, that the problems the African Continent suffers fall historically on the shoulders of colonialism, and that the problems of backwardness, instability, borders, and regional conflicts in Africa are the legacy of the hated colonialism.

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great Al-Fatih Revolution, expressed his gratitude for the warm reception with with he was received in Upper Volta from the people, members of the CSP, and the Government. In his speech at the dinner organized by the CSP in Upper Volta in his honor, Al-Qadhdhafi said that this reception has expressed the depth of the ties that bind us and the revolutionary meeting between our two revolutions. He also said: "I am pleased to congratulate you here on the occasion of the victory of your revolution. I came here to confirm our alliance with you, and to tell you that we are your natural allies. We are strong allies, and you can rely on alliance with your brothers the free Libyans. We are doing this as a duty to you."

Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, said at the dinner organized in his honor by the president of the CSP in Upper Volta that the colonialists will always be cursed because of the tragedies colonialism has left behind on the African territory.

He said that the colonialists have harmed humanity by practicing racial discrimination — they have despised the black color, whereas in fact blacks have nothing to do with their color. This is barbaric, appalling backwardness; a mentality that the hated colonialist culture has organized, and which we have to lead a cultural revolution [word indistinct] as a hope for Africa to demolish the hated colonialist heritage. He added that revolution in Africa is taking place in several stages.

Communique Issued

LD021006 Tripoli JANA in Arabic 0700 GMT 2 May 83

["Text" of final communique issued in Tripoli and Ouagadougou following the visit of Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi to Upper Volta from 30 April-1 May]

[Text] The Brother Colonel Mu'ammar Qadhdhafi, leader of the Great 1 September Revolution, paid a working and friendly visit to the Republic of Upper Volta between 30 April-1 May 1983. The brother colonel and the delegation accompanying him were received by His Excellency President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and members of the People's Salvation Council [CSP] and government. He was also accorded a grand popular welcome that underlined the depth of friendship between the two friendly peoples.

During this visit, the two leaders held a number of working meetings with the participation of the members of their respective delegations. The two sides studied in depth the bilateral fraternal relations between their peoples and countries and reviewed the situation on the African Continent and in the Middle East region. In reviewing bilateral relations, the two sides agreed to expand and deepen cooperation and integration between their countries, and they reached an agreement on establishing a higher committee for cooperation, a joint bank, and a joint farming company.

Concerning the situation on the African Continent, the two leaders expressed their deep concern over the crisis being experienced by the OAU, stressing the importance of the organization and its role in coordinating African positions and the defense of freedom and progress in the continent. They also expressed their concern over the policy of coercion practiced by the racist regime in Azania against African citizens and this regime's policy to obstruct the independence of Namibia.

They also emphasized the danger of the cooperation between the two racist regimes in southern Africa and the Zionist entity in occupied Palestine, especially in the military sphere.

Concerning the Middle East, they noted the danger of the continuous usurpation of Palestine by the Zionist enemy and its continuous occupation of several parts of the territories of Arab states.

In the international field, they stressed the importance of establishing a fair economic order. They also expressed the importance of establishing a South-South economic dialogue. They lauded the role of the Nonaligned Movement in preserving the interests of the developing states and its positive contribution to maintaining peace.

Concerning the United Nations, they stressed the importance of this organization and stressed that it is time to review its Charter so that it may become more democratic and fair to member states.

During the marginal meetings between the brother leader of the revolution and the CSP of Upper Volta, there was an exchange of views over the democratic implementation of the Third World theory carried out in the Jamahiriyah.

At the conclusion of this visit, the Brother Col Mu'amar Qadhdhafi stressed the fact that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah stands on the side of the revolution and people of Upper Volta. He also expressed his deep thanks and gratitude to President Jean-Baptiste Ouedraogo and all the members of the CSP, government, and people of Upper Volta for the warm welcome he received.

Issued in Ouadougou on 1 May 1983

Al-Qadhdhafi Departs

AB021023 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, left Ouagadougou this evening after paying a working and friendly visit to our country. Head of state Al-Qadhdhafi arrived in our country yesterday at the head of an important delegation. During the visit, head of state Al-Qadhdhafi and his delegation held discussions with the Upper Voltan officials, working sessions between the delegations and private meetings between the two heads of state. A final communique marked the end of the Libyan head of state's visit to our country. The final communique revealed the areas of the cooperation between Libya and the Upper Volta. [passage indistinct]

ANGOLA

ANGOP Questions U.S. Policy in Angola

AB281809 Luanda ANGOP in French 1138 GMT 28 Apr 83

[ANGOP commentary: "U.S. Policy Cannot Deceive the Angolan People"]

[Text] Luanda, 28 Apr (ANGOP) — The U.S. Government continues to interfere in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola. In fact, the ultimate aim of Washington's strategy is to replace the present Angolan leaders with elements of the puppet UNITA group, which they currently support through South Africa.

The visible part of this macabre plan is in the south of Angola, where armed UNITA bands, which benefit from the support of racist South Africa, the occupier of a large part of the Angolan province of Cunene since 23 August 1981, are ready to create an atmosphere of terror and insecurity among defenseless people.

Over the last few days, there has been intense activity by the UNITA puppets in a desperate attempt to "win" territory in order to present to their patrons a so-called civil war in Angola.

The tactic does not deceive anyone: While the United States delays the solution to the Namibian problem by trying to gain time this way, the puppet UNITA group must gain greater control over territory from which it could later continue its criminal actions without the cover of the South African occupation forces.

But why has the United States placed its hopes on the puppets and on South Africa?

By opting for a socialist way of development on 11 November 1975, the Angolan people dealt a harsh blow to imperialist pretensions in Africa. The policy subsequently adopted by the MPLA-Labor Party made it possible to foil imperialist maneuvers, especially in the southern areas where the Namibians and the South Africans are fighting for the right to assert themselves.

Diplomatically, the American Government has introduced a new element to the solution of the Namibian issue. It is the withdrawal of Cuban troops from Angola, an issue which concerns the Angolan and Cuban governments and no one else.

In spite of this, senior U.S. officials, including Chester Crocker and George Bush, have approached certain African leaders as so-called messengers of peace, which according to their philosophy can only be achieved after the withdrawal of the Cuban troops from Angola.

But this cover cannot veil the facts to those who really want to see clearly and refuse to be taken in. The alliance which the United States maintains with the racist Pretoria regime, reflected in its move to defend South Africa without hesitation at the UN Security Council, clearly proves that the U.S. Government is not a trustworthy negotiator.

However, to solve its internal problems, the People's Republic of Angola does not need the assistance of other countries, and certainly not that of the United States.

The Angolan authorities have sought to solve these problems through an open dialogue with the parties concerned. One still remembers the talks held with the South Africans that fell through because the level of South Africa's delegation did not meet the requirements.

Why does the United States so obstinately want to meddle in the internal affairs of the People's Republic of Angola and to play the role of mediator in questions which do not concern it?

UNITA Sets Conditions To Release Foreigners

MB301053 (Clandestine) Voice of Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 29 Apr 83

[UNITA radio]

[Text] National Union for the Total Independence of Angola, 1983, year of the anti-Cuban effort: Communique from the UNITA Central Committee:

Point 1: We are not insensitive to the appeals of countries interested in the release of the Czechoslovak and Portuguese nationals caputured by UNITA at Alto Catumbela on 12 March 1983, the year of the anti-Cuban effort. Nor, least of all, do we ignore the efforts of the International Committee of the Red Cross, with which we maintain cordial relations.

Point 2: We are compelled by patriotic duty and humanitarian feelings to inform the international public of the following:

Paragraph A: Only when all the Czechoslovak nationals have arrived at the UNITA central base will they be visited by a commission of the International Committee of the Red Cross.

Paragraph B: We reiterate our pledge to immediately release the Czechoslovak children without preconditions as soon as they have arrived at the UNITA central base.

Paragraph C: Most of the Portuguese nationals will also be released without preconditions, with the exception of some who are suspected of having collaborated with DISA, the MPLA state security service.

Point 3: Some of the Czechoslovak nationals will only be released under the previously-stated condition of being exchanged for seven British mercenaries who have been imprisoned by the MPLA government since 1976.

Point 4: In solidarity with the anti-imperialist struggle being waged by the heroic Afghan people, UNITA will only release the medical doctor, (Marya Udikova), in exchange for the French medical doctor, Philippe Augoyard, of the International Medical Aid organization, who was captured in Afghanistan while rendering humanitarian aid to needy civilians in that country.

Point 5: As in the past, UNITA will meet all proposals with a great deal of understanding and openness. However, the negotiations for the release of the Czechoslovak nationals will be difficult and protracted. We cannot forget that the Czechoslovaks are direct allies of the Soviets, who, with the Cubans, seek to expand totalitarian hegemony throughout the world.

The peoples who are willing to shed their blood in the armed struggle for freedom, a group which includes the Angolan people, the Afghan people, the Ethiopian people and the Cambodian people, deserve the solidarity of all free men and women throughout the world.

The struggle triumphs. United, we shall win.

Angola, 16 April 1983, year of the anti-Cuban effort.

Signed: Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of UNITA.

Czechs at UNITA Base

NC021526 Paris AFP in English 1518 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Paris, May 2 (AFP) — A first batch of Czechoslovaks from the group of 64 seized in central Angola seven weeks ago has now reached the main base of the UNITA anti-government movement in southern Angola.

Alexander Ivan, a 54-year-old translator at the Catumbela timber factory attacked by UNITA guerrillas on March 12, said that the eight people in his group had to walk 1,150 kms (720 miles) and travel another 700 km (440 miles) by lorry before they reached the base camp on Saturday. Mr Ivan told a special correspondent for the French radio station France Inter that the captives had been separated into three groups. He said that "since lack of food and medicines did not make it any easier for the weakest to keep moving and made the march dangerous for all of us the UNITA leader decided to separate us, which is why we arrived first."

The French journalist said that Mr Ivan was wearing new clothes but had grown a beard and seemed tense. The translator said that "we are very tired, and worried about our families who are behind us, the women and the children, of which the youngest is only 18 months old. We were told that we were not prisoners of war, that no conditions had been set for our liberation, and that there were no plans to exchange us."

However, UNITA leader Jonas Savimbi told the French radio reporter that the movement wished to "exchange some of these Czechs for seven British mercenaries held by (the Angolan central government in) Luanda, for French Doctor Philippe Augoyard, who is held in Kabul (by the pro-Soviet regime in Afghanistan) and for some of our members jailed in Luanda."

Asked why he intended to seek Dr Augoyard's release, Mr Savimbi replied: "Someone asked us to do it, we are not short of friends in France."

The UNITA leader said that any exchange of prisoners would probably take place under the control of the International Red Cross. He said that he did not want to keep the Czechoslovaks captive for too long because "this would create problems for us, particularly with regard to our security."

FALA Communique Reports 4, 20 April Actions

MB301112 (Clandestine) Voice of the Resistance of the Black Cockerel in Portuguese to Angola 0430 GMT 29 Apr 83

[UNITA radio; communique issued by General Staff of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola — date and place not given]

[Text] Very early on 20 April, 1983, the 21st Brigade of UNITA stormed and captured the strategic township of Munhango in Bie Province along the Benguela railway line. The fight lasted 45 minutes. The People's Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola [FAPLA] contingent, consisting of 570 men, suffered 214 confirmed dead, and 15 FAPLA members were taken alive.

Our forces captured over 300 pieces of equipment, including AK-47 rifles, mortars, artillery pieces, and antiaircraft guns. Our forces also found a trainload of supplies and war equipment at the Benguela railway station. Four locomotives, one diesel locomotive and three steam locomotives were destroyed.

Four fuel storage tanks, with a capacity of 200,000 liters, were also destroyed. Ten thousand civilians, who were under the oppression of the MPLA minority government, were freed.

The township of Munhango is a strategic point on the Benguela railway line between the central plateau and the eastern portion of the country. Munhango is on the northrn side of the line from (Sempue), which was taken by UNITA forces on 4 April 1983. (Sempue) is the birthplace of General Dr Jonas Malheiro Savimbi, president of the party and commander in chief of the Armed Forces for the Liberation of Angola.

The attack on Munhango township was filmed by a team from an international delegation and witnessed by a group of foreign journalists.

MOZAMBIQUE

Plot To Kill Machel During Frelimo Congress

MB021939 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1900 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] The defense and security forces have captured an officer of the South African Army who had the mission of assassinating President Samora Machel during the proceedings of the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress. The officer, whose interview was shown yesterday and the day before by the experimental television service, is named (Peter Benjamin Freshman) and he is an expert in the fields of infantry and artillery. He is also a helicopter pilot and an expert in the field of military intelligence. Besides the mission to assassinate President Samora Machel, (Peter Benjamin Freshman) was also charged with producing microfilm

containing information on the Cabora Bassa electrical power system in Tete and the electrical power system in Maputo, as well as that of post offices, the Hotel Polana, and other strategic points in the city.

Further Reportage on Fourth Frelimo Congress

27 April Session Reviewed

MB291109 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1800 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] The Fourth Frelimo Party Congress, underway in Maputo, has accepted the report of the Central Committee after 2 days of presentation and debate.

Several of the speakers today and yesterday stressed the failure of the state apparatus to support local initiative. The Congress also heard a direct accusation by a delegate from Sofala Province that forces opposed to the Mozambique revolution have infiltrated the senior ranks of the Frelimo Party. (Jose Paulo Nxumali), director of the Buzi sugar complex, reported [words indistinct] in the debate today to say that enemies were to be found in the Central Committee of the party and in the Council of Ministers.

President Samora Machel responded by saying that action against such elements would be taken after the Congress.

(Anchieta Azona), a woman delegate from Niassa Province, said that communal villages do not receive adequate building materials and transport, while Nampula railway worker delegate (Benjamim Martinho) said the railways are so poorly administered that the situation encourages thefts from freight trains.

A Maputo delegate, (Aurelio Manhica) from Xipamanine neighborhood, spoke about the problem of blackmarketeering, saying that many people within the state apparatus were involved but were rarely punished. He said he supported the law to publicly flog blackmarketeers but was asking himself who was actually going to apply this law to the real criminals.

Mass and professional organizations have been bringing messages of support and solidarity to the congress. Earlier this evening, 200 people representing teachers, writers and other professionals, entered the Congress Hall singing and dancing, while several thousand of their colleagues had to remain outside for lack of space.

Foreign Delegates Read Messges

MB291850 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 1435 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] The Fourth Frelimo Congress resumed its work this afternoon at 1500 with the reading of new messages conveyed by foreign guests representing their parties.

From Cuba, Sergio Jimenez brought us expressions of his country's joy at participating in our congress, pointing out the certainty that the Frelimo Party will use the congress as a means to mobilize the people as a whole in the struggle under the leadership of President Samora Machel. The message from the Communist Party of Cuba referred to the international environment in which the Frelimo Party congress is being held, reiterating the support of the Communist Party of Cuba for the struggle being waged by the peoples against imperialist aggression. The message from Cuba also referred to the 100th anniversary of the death of Karl Marx.

The head of the Hungarian delegation, who is a member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Political Committee, then read a message on behalf of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Central Committee. He saluted the Fourth Congress of the Frelimo Party and all its participants, wishing them success in their working sessions of this important congress. He referred to the friendship that exists between the peoples of Mozambique and Hungary and which dates back to the time of the armed struggle for national liberation. The victories achieved by the Mozambique people under the leadership of the Frelimo Party, despite foreign aggression, were also mentioned in the message read by the member of the Hungarian Socialist Workers Party Political Committee. He ended by saying that his country supports young African nations which are subjected to actions by imperialism, which is trying to regain lost ground. It also supports the southern African liberation movement, namely the South African ANC and SWAPO of Namibia.

A message of salutations from the Chinese Communist Party was also read this afternoon. It dealt mainly with the manner in which the Frelimo Central Committee report was presented and expressed the Chinese party's trust that major tasks will be carried out in the long march for peace and social progress. The message expressed the need to strengthen the links that unite the two parties. During the reading of his message, the Chinese delegate gave President Samora Machel a flag from the Chinese Communist Party. Meanwhile, representatives of other parties and friendly organizations read their messages. These included messages from the Communist Party of Romania, the League of Communists of Yugoslavia, and the Korean Workers Party.

Moses Mabhida, general secretary of the South African Communist Party, read his message at the Cometal-Mometal factory in the presence of hundreds of workers today. He saluted many of the heroes who died in the struggle for the cause of the Mozambique people by recalling the deaths of Eduardo Mondlane, Josina Machel and Mateus Muthemba. Moses Mabhida said that they are a source of inspiration for the South African people. He said that the use of slogans of protest against the apartheid regime is a form of struggle and urged the Mozambique workers to increase their propaganda against the South African minority regime. Moses Mabhida was accompanied by a delegate to the congress.

ANC President Addresses Congress

MB291902 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Excerpt] Oliver Tambo, president of the ANC, began the fourth day of the Frelimo congess today saying that the ANC struggle is for far-reaching social transformation, not for replacing white

faces while leaving exploitative economic structures in place. He saluted Frelimo for building a new society free from exploitation at the gates of the most hateful society in the world.

Speaking of South African attacks, Mr Tambo said the apartheid regime invented mythical bases to justify attacks on neighboring states, and that the real ANC bases are within South Africa and the regime is unable to destroy them.

Last night the delegates approved a new Frelimo Party anthem as well as a new emblem and flag, both depicting a yellow star over crossed hoe and hammer on a solid red base. The delegates also approved a substantial series of amendments to the party program, which now unambiguously defines Mozambique as a socialist country. One amendment calls for a differential to the pricing policy to encourage food production by small peasants, while others deal with the elimination of unjust wage differentials and giving priority to literacy and compulsory education to children.

The congress reached a point of intense emotion last night when several hundred veterans of the liberation war marched into the room to present their greetings. The spokesperson, (Gideon Chule), said that patriotic spirit, high morale and conviction had won independence for Mozambique. The message said the veterans were prepared to take up arms to rid the Mozambique revolution of agents of the bourgeoisie and other infiltrators in the state structures.

New Central Committee Elections

MB301233 Maputo in English to Southern Africa 1100 GMT 30 Apr 83

[Text] Frelimo's fourth congress began its fifth and last day with a closed session to elect a new Central Committee. The Committee is then scheduled to elect a new Political Bureau.

Yesterday, the congress heard a report on new economic and social directives which give a more detailed outline of the general party policy. The directives set specific targets for production in various sectors up until 1985, with the overall production increase set at 10 to 12 percent for the 3-year period. The directives' main priorities are to end hunger and fight the Quizumba bandits.

In a debate that followed the report, emphasis was given to the lack of input from agricultural producers in the drawing up of production plans. During the afternoon, a group of about 300 people representing peasant producers in Mozambique marched into the Congress Hall to greet the delegates and party leaders. Their spokesperson, (Salimo Nkosa), who is also president of the Cooperative Union in one of the Maputo suburbs, said that the land in the past had been an instrument of exploitation, but was now a weapon of liberation.

Frelimo Party Leaders Elected

MB021159 [Editorial Report] Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese was intercepted in progress at 1620 GMT on 30 April carrying live coverage of the closing session of the Fourth Frelimo Congress. When intercepted, a speaker is in the middle of reading the names of the Frelimo Party Central Committee members elected by the congress.

Following this, an unidentified speaker reads the following names of those elected to the Frelimo Party Political Bureau: Samora Moises Machel, Marcelino dos Santos, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Alberto Joaquim Chipande, Armando Emilio Guebuza, Jorge Rebelo, Mariano de Araujo Matsinhe, Sebastiao Marcos Mabote, Jacinto Soares Veloso, Mario da Graca Machungo, and Jose Oscar Monteiro.

The same unidentified speaker continues by reading the names of the new party Secretariat: Samora Moises Machel, Joaquim Alberto Chissano, Jorge Rebelo, Armando Panguene, and Jose Luis Cabaco. He also announces that Mariano de Araujo Matsinhe was elected secretary, and Raimundo Pachinuapa deputy secretary, of the party Control Committee.

The same speaker then announces that Samora Moises Machel was elected as the party chairman.

Following this, at 1700 GMT Samora Machel gives his closing address. Machel's speech ends at approximately 1730 GMT.

Machel Addresses Final Session

MB010913 Maputo Domestic Service in Portuguese 0500 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] The days of the congress have been marked by an in-depth analysis and discussion of the destiny of the nation. This was said by President Samora Machel when, at about 1900 hours yesterday, he addressed the closing session of the Fourth Frelimo Party Congress, which had been underway since 26 April.

Referring to the congress, the supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution stressed that it was an event that will greatly influence the upcoming phases of socialist construction in the People's Republic of Mozambique.

Regarding the important role of the delegates in the process of implementing the resolutions of the fourth congress, Samora Machel stressed that the delegates would take with them the heavy responsibility of maintaining in their party cells the spirit of the congress, which emphasized open and frank discussion and exemplary concern for the problems of the people. They will bear the responsibility of implementing the directives of the fourth congress. The delegates will bear the brunt of the work and sacrifice which must be made so that the ideals we now jointly inspire may bring to the fertile land of Mozambique peace and abundance, patriotism and proletarian internationalism, and fraternity and equality among men, the field marshal of the republic remarked.

Regarding the rousing enthusiasm shown when the congress approved the symbols of the worker-peasant alliance, the president of the Frelimo Party said: On this day, when we close the fourth congress of our party, we remember, with vivid emotion and love, Eduardo Chivambo Mondlane, founder of the Mozambique Liberation Front, architect of national unity, intellectual,

guerrilla, comrade in the struggle, and beloved leader of our people. Machel remembered that the murderous bomb which claimed Eduardo Mondlane was sent by the enemies of peace and freedom and only confirmed the justness of the ideals and the struggle that he was leading. The strength of the 25 September guerrillas, President Samora Machel added, was such that they were able to transform the grief over the loss of Mondlane into a new force and hoist the flag of national independence in June 1975.

Shortly after President Machel's closing address to the fourth congress, the pioneers of the Mozambique revolution presented their message of greetings to the meeting of the supreme organ of the Frelimo Party. The message, read by one of the children, expressed their determination to be the true torchbearers of the revolution, and through the delegations present, they greeted all the children of the world. At that time the torchbearers of the Mozmbique revolution sang songs which greatly pleased all the participants in the congress.

President Samora Machel later hosted a reception in Maputo in honor of the foreign delegations which attended the fourth congress. At the reception, the supreme leader of the Mozambique revolution was accompanied by members of the new Political Bureau of the Frelimo Party Central Committee.

VOFA Reports on 24, 27 April Actions of RENAMO

MB021950 (Clandestine) Voice of Free Africa in Portuguese to Mozambique 1700 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] The General Staff Headquarters of the Mozambique National Resistance [RENAMO] has issued a communique on recent military operations that its forces have carried out inside the country. It reads:

On 24 April, RENAMO forces sabotaged the railway line linking Mocuba and the provincial capital of Zambezia, Quelimane. The action took place at (Munhane), and railway traffic between the two towns remains disrupted. RENAMO forces also destroyed telephone lines, disrupting telephone communications between the towns of Mocuba and Quelimane.

On 27 April a train was derailed on the Maputo-Magude line at a place near Mugude and the railway line is now blocked. No explosives were used in this action. The action was carried out when local residents, in conjunction with RENAMO forces, removed railway ties and pulled up railroad spikes.

The struggle continues.

NAMIBIA

Van Niekerk Optimistic About Political Talks

MB020900 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1902 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] Windhoek, May 1, SAPA — The administrator-general of SWA/Namibia, Dr Willie van Niekerk, said tonight he was confident agreement would be reached "within the next few weeks" among political leaders on the territory's interim constitutional future.

In a statement issued in Windhoek, Dr van Niekerk said consensus had emerged in consultations with party representatives on the need to institute "constructive constitutional reflection and development" in the period before independence.

Responding to news reports, he said various options were being discussed to attain that objective, but there was as yet no "blueprint or predetermined model" for the interim constitutional development of SWA/Namibia.

Although considerable progress had been made on key issues "it is desirable, in the interests of both domestic certainty and the continuation of international negotiations, that the present series of talks should reach a conclusion within the next few weeks," Dr van Niekerk said.

"I am confident the parties will be able to reach agreement on the remaining points of difference within that time."

Avoids Honoring Claude Cheysson

MB010805 Umtata Capital Radio in English 0700 GMT 1 May 83

[Text] There has been another incident indicating the deteriorating relationship between France and South Africa. It is reported from the Namibian capital, Windhoek, that South African Administrator General Willie van Niekerk has been absent from a function in honor of the French foreign minister.

Van Niekerk was to have delivered a message of goodwill from South Africa. The occasion was a prize-giving by the Luderitz (Bucht) Foundation to French Foreign Minister Claude Cheysson for his role in facilitating commerce between Africa and the EEC.

French Ambassador to South Africa Francois Plaisant received the prize on behalf of Cheysson at the small Namibian coastal town of Luderitz yesterday.

Sources at the town say Van Niekerk's absence is a snub to the ambassador. Relations between South Africa and France are already strained over the canceled rugby tour and last week's pro-SWAPO conference in the French capital.

Taiwan Military Chief Arrives, Comments on Arms

MB281250 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1217 GMT 28 Apr 83

[Text] Windhoek, April 28, SAPA — The chief of Taiwan's armed forces, General Hau Pei-tsun, arrived in Windhoek today for a two-day goodwill visit to SWA/Namibia. General Hau was met at Windhoek's J.G. Strijdom Airport by the officer-commanding the SWA Territory Force, Major General Charles Lloyd, and was acccompanied by the inspector general of the South African Army, Major General Marthinus du Plessis.

At an airport press conference General Hau said Taiwan had no plans to buy weapons from South Africa. "Even though the Republic of South Africa and the Republic of China are at the forefront of the fight against communism, the background and environment of the struggle are very different," the Taiwanese general said.

Most of the armaments manufactured in South Africa were also made in Taiwan.

The general, accompanied by other high-ranking Taiwanese officers, will visit the operational area before returning to South Africa.

The purpose of their visit was to strengthen the bonds of friendship between Taiwan and South Africa and to exchange ideas on their common struggle against communism.

While South Africa was fighting on the ground against guerrilla infiltration, Taiwan was fighting against mainland China's attempts to take over Taiwan without a shot being fired. "When the mainland Chinese see the tactic does not work, they will wage war against us," General Hau said. Although there appeared to be friction between Moscow and Bejing, their final goal remained the same, he said.

Nujoma Addresses Paris Conference on Namibia

EA012138 Addis Ababa Voice of Namibia in English 1900 GMT 30 Apr 83

["Extracts" from statement by SWAPO President Sam Nujoma at the Paris international conference of solidarity with the Namibian people's struggle for independence; date not specified — recorded] [Text] This conference is being held at a critical time, when the independence of Namibia is being held hostage and the suffering of our people is being used by the Reagan administration to achieve Washington's imperialist global ambition. Therefore, the oppressed but struggling Namibian people are following with keen interest the deliberations of the conference and are hoping that its conclusions and resolutions [words indistinct] the active solidarity and support of the international community for our just cause for national liberation.

Incredibly, the situation in and around Namibia has taken a negative turn as the racist regime of Pretoria has intensified her brutal and generalized destruction in South Africa itself, and in Namibia and has embarked upon a campaign of aggressive military (?attacks) and destabilization throughout southern Africa. The ever more aggressive and arrogant policies and actions of the Pretoria racists are a direct result of the [word indistinct] of reactionary Reagan administration in Washington which has publicly embraced apartheid South Africa as a friendly country. In Namibia, the last three years have seen a massive South African military buildup, turning Namibia into a garrison state. The obvious consequence of this state of affairs is the untold suffering of the Namibian masses in the form of cold-blooded murder, abductions, torture, incarcerations in concentration camps, massacre of innocent militants, rapes and constant acts of intimidation.

In the same fashion, the racist Pretoria regime has (embarked) upon a generalized and calculated campaign of destabilization against independent African states in the region. To this end, the regime has been recruiting, training, financing, arming [word indistinct] deploying, commanding and rescuing the puppets and bandits from these countries. These acts of destabilization are being perpetrated against Angola, Mozambique, Lesotho, Zimbabwe, Zambia, Botswana and other African states as far afield as the Seychelles. It is (?sensitive) but proper and necessary to state here that the past 3 years have seen the resurgence of the (?aptly) warmongering, reactionary policy of contradictions, direct intervention and intensified covert activities against progressive governments, and above all the most dangerous threats of nuclear holocaust by the aggressive circles of imperialism.

This is indeed an ominous international situation, but the champions of liberation, justice and peace the world over should never succumb to these outrageous policies, to those who are busy trying to convince the world that nuclear war is not only thinkable but that it is actually [words indistinct]. In this connection, it is heartening and encouraging to note that millions of people have taken to the streets in North America and Western Europe in active opposition to such irrational policies. They are doing so to help save the world from total destruction.

One of the direct consequences of the latest impossible and (?dangerous) idea of the aggressive circles of imperialism is the calculated distortion of the legitimate demands of the oppressed and exploited masses in southern Africa for their right to self-determination, freedom and national independence. In other words, their demands for liberation, justice and independence have been relegated to the lowest point (?of all) on the list of priorities by the major capitalist powers and their (?monstrous traditional) cooperation [words indistinct] every other consideration.

I have been mandated by the Central Committee of SWAPO to categorically and clearly state that our movement, having reviewed the history of the negotiations and the role of the so-called Contact Group led by the USA, has concluded that this group has lost proper contact with the letter and spirit of Resolution 435, and thus the whole exercise, and now stands out to be a mere rescue operation of the white racist illegal occupiers in Namibia.

In particular, the Central Committee of SWAPO has singled out the Reagan administration which, because of its public embrace of apartheid South Africa, has rejected [words indistinct] decolonization process of our country and extraneous issues by linking the independence of Namibia to the withdrawal of Cuban forces from the People's Republic of Angola.

The Central Comunjust, arrogant and irrational and objectionable policy of linkage.

The position of SWAPO is that the oppressed people of Namibia are entitled to independence without any [word indistinct] precondition or prevarication. It is in the light of this that SWAPO has come to the conclusion that the role of the five Western powers ceases to be that of honest brokers [words indistinct] of Security Council Resolution 435 of 1978.

These powers, and the Reagan administration in particular, must be prevailed upon to desist forthwith from their sinister attempts to hijack and misuse the Namibian negotiating process for their own selfish ends. The recent decision of the European Community has great apprehension for the struggling Namibian people. By adopting a reactionary and hostile resolution [words indistinct] to providing direct financial and material assistance under false pretexts to the Angolan bandits and mercenaries based in occupied Namibia, the European Community has taken a public position in favor of further strengthening the hand of the Pretoria regime in its campaign of destabilization and suppression against the People's Republic of Angola. We strongly condemn the sponsors and supporters of this reactionary resolution and reject its (?import) as an act of hostility against the people of Africa.

SOUTH AFRICA

No Comment on Reported Meeting With Angola

MB021255 Johannesburg SAPA in English 1231 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] Johannesburg, May 2, SAPA — A spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs today had no comment to make on a third meeting between South Africa and Angola to discuss SWA/Namibia.

Earlier today the Angolan foreign minister, Mr Paulo Jorge, was quoted as saying South Africa and Angola had agreed to meet. "We're waiting for them to propose a date, and we're waiting to find out the composition of their delegation," Mr Jorge told the Paris newspaper, LIBERATION.

In Pretoria a spokesman for the Department of Foreign Affairs told SAPA, "We have no comment."

Spokesman Denies SWAPO Claims on Casualties

MB020850 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 0500 GMT 2 May 83

[Text] The chief director of operations of the South African Defense Force, Major General Denis Earp, says that SWAPO claims made at the Paris conference sponsored by the UN Council for Namibia that it killed or wounded almost 3,000 South African soldiers in South-West Africa last year are blatant lies. Gen Earp said in a radio interview that it was Defense Force policy to release for publication deaths in the operational area. The same applied to the South-West African Territory Force and the South African Police. Therefore, the South African public knew what the truth was.

Gen Earp said that SWAPO was following the old Marxist technique of the big lie and that there were many willing radio stations which propagated these lies, particularly those in the Soviet Union, several in Africa, and UN Radio.

He said it was clear that SWAPO had realized that militarily it could not succeed and was using propaganda in the political sphere to attempt to achieve its aims. In fact, SWAPO losses had been more than 7,500 to date, including 309 in their latest incursion attempt. He said if one took into consideration the quality of SWAPO's medical facilities, the true figures were probably 50 percent higher than the official figures.

Pik Botha on Nation's Enemies, Need for Unity

MB300906 Johannesburg SAPA in English 2128 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Text] Ermelo, April 29, SAPA — It was naive to believe that there was not an intensive and well-orchestrated onslaught against South Africa, the minister of foreign affairs and information, Mr Pik Botha, said tonight.

Addressing a National Party fund-raising dinner in Ermelo, Mr Botha said the threat against the country was far more real and frightening than some people, particularly certain members of the Conservative Party and the Herstigte Nasionale Party like to believe.

The country's enemies were bent on bringing South Africa to its knees and sowing chaos and confusion among its people, and its prime target was the National Party.

One only had to look at South Africa's isolation in the international arena, the boycotts and sanctions against the country, the terrorist war being waged against its people and the fact that South Africa was not even allowed to take up its rightful seat in the United Nations to realise that this was true, he added.

And at a crucial time, when unity was needed more than ever before in order to withstand the onslaught against South Africa, its people were divided over trivial differences, which were playing into the hands of the country's enemies, Mr Botha said.

He urged South Africans to shelve their political differences and stand together in their pursuit of which he termed a common objective — namely, security and democracy.

Most parties believed in the same goals, they merely differed over the method of attaining them, Mr Botha added.

Without mentioning the government's proposed constitutional reforms by name, he said it was necessary that steps be taken to enhance South Africa's image in the international arena and keep its trade channels open, and safeguard the country against chaos and instability.

"Must we wait until everyone can see the flames ... before they believe that steps must be taken, to guarantee the white survival?" he saked.

In an obvious reference to rightwing parties, Mr Botha reiterated his earlier statement that there was no room in South Africa for racism. It was the country's duty to safeguard the rights of all its people, he added.

Budgetary Expenditure for Homelands Disclosed
MB300749 Johannesburg Domestic Service in English 1900 GMT 29 Apr 83

[Textt] The budgeted expenditure of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Information for development aid to the four independent states totals nearly 660 million rand in the current financial year. This was disclosed by the minister, Mr Pik Botha, in reply to a question in the Assembly.

He said 262.3 million rand would go to the Transkei, 94.9 million rand to Bophutatswana, 98.1 million rand to Venda, and 201.1 million to Ciskei. These amounts represented budgetary assistance, statutory allocations, bread subsidies, seconding of personnel, technical aid and incentives for the establishment of industries.